

For more information or assistance, contact your local union health and safety representative, your union executive, your CUPE representative or the CUPE health and safety staff representative for your province at:

**Canadian Union of Public Employees**

Atlantic Regional Office

271 Brownlow Avenue

Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, B3B 1W6

Tel. (902) 455-4180

Fax (902) 455-5915

Or contact the CUPE National Health and Safety Branch at:

Tel. (613) 237-1590

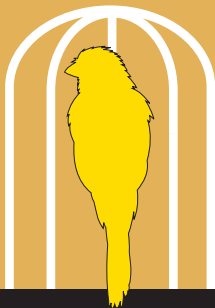
Fax (613) 237-5508

Email: [health\\_safety@cupe.ca](mailto:health_safety@cupe.ca)

For additional health and safety resources, visit [cupe.ca/health-and-safety](http://cupe.ca/health-and-safety)

**CUPE** / Canadian Union  
of Public Employees

**YOU CAN  
REFUSE  
UNSAFE  
WORK**



**NOVA SCOTIA**

As a worker in Nova Scotia, you have the legal right to refuse unsafe work, according to Section 43 of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*, when there are reasonable grounds to believe that the work condition, equipment, material, or any aspect of the work may be dangerous to you or another person's health and safety.

**Here's how you can refuse unsafe work:**

1. Notify your supervisor or employer at the worksite, and state your reason for refusal.
2. Where the matter is not remedied to the employee's satisfaction, report it to your workplace health and safety committee or the worker health and safety representative.
3. If you are not satisfied with the remedy, contact the Department of

Labour and Advanced Education to speak with an officer about the refusal.

4. The officer shall investigate the complaint, and document actions taken in a written report. A copy of the report must be provided to you.
5. If you are not satisfied with the officer's report, you may appeal the report within 30 days, and request a review by the Occupational Health and Safety Council.

You cannot be threatened or discriminated against through dismissal, reprimand or reduction of either wages or benefits for complying with the legislation, according to section 45 of the act.

**You have the legal right to a healthy and safe workplace.**