

For more information or assistance, contact your local union health and safety representative, your union executive, your CUPE representative or CUPE's Health and Safety Branch at:

### **Canadian Union of Public Employees**

Health and Safety Branch  
1375 St. Laurent Blvd.

Ottawa, ON K1G 0Z7

Tel: (844) 237-1590 (toll free)

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

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

**CUPE** | Canadian Union  
of Public Employees



# **YOU CAN REFUSE UNSAFE WORK**



## **NEW BRUNSWICK**

As a worker in New Brunswick, you have the legal right to refuse unsafe work that endangers your health and safety or someone else's (*Occupational Health and Safety Act*, Section 19).

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

- 1) Notify your supervisor about your concerns and refuse the unsafe work. Remain in a safe location in your workplace for the duration of your normal working hours.
- 2) The supervisor must investigate the situation in your presence, and take appropriate action or recommend action to the employer.
- 3) If the matter has not been resolved to your satisfaction, refer it to the joint health and safety committee which will investigate the situation.

4) If the matter is still not resolved to your satisfaction by the committee, or if your workplace doesn't have a committee, you can refer the matter to a government occupational health and safety officer.

5) The officer will investigate and may order remedial action. The written findings will be given to you, the employer and the committee. If you are not satisfied with the direction of the officer, you may appeal the finding to the Chief Compliance Officer (CCO). The refusal can continue until a ruling is made by the CCO.

You cannot be discriminated against, threatened or coerced for complying with the legislation, according to Section 24 of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

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