

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 representative for your province at:

Canadian Union of Public Employees

Atlantic Regional Office
271 Brownlow Avenue
Dartmouth, NS B3B 1W6
Tel: (844) 237-1590 (toll free)

Or contact CUPE's Health and Safety Branch at:

Tel: (844) 237-1590 (toll free)
Email: health_safety@cupe.ca

For additional health and safety resources, visit 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 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 to another person's health and safety (*Occupational Health and Safety Act*, Section 43).

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 will 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 *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

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