

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

For additional health and safety resources, visit cupe.ca/health-and-safety

CUPE | Canadian Union
of Public Employees



YOU CAN REFUSE UNSAFE WORK



PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

As a worker in Prince Edward Island, you have the legal right to refuse unsafe work when you believe that the work may endanger your health and safety or someone else's (*Occupational Health and Safety Act*, Section 28).

Here's how you can refuse unsafe work:

- 1) If you find a situation at work to be dangerous, you have the right to refuse the work.
- 2) Notify your supervisor of your concerns and refuse the unsafe work. The supervisor must investigate with you and take remedial action or recommend the appropriate action to the employer.
- 3) If you are not satisfied with the remedy, or if your supervisor investigates and finds that you did not have reasonable grounds for believing that the work may endanger you or others, contact your joint health and safety committee or employee health and safety representative. If these resources

do not exist in your workplace, contact a government health and safety officer.

4) The committee or representative will promptly investigate the situation and make recommendations.

5) If the matter is still not resolved to your satisfaction, you may refer the matter to a government or occupational health and safety officer.

6) The officer will investigate and may order remedial action by the employer. The officer's report must be provided in writing to you, the employer and the health and safety committee.

7) If you are not satisfied with the decision of the officer, you can appeal the finding to the Director of Occupational Health and Safety. However, legally, you must return to work.

You cannot be discriminated against, threatened or coerced for complying with the legislation, according to Section 30 of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

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