

## **British Columbia**

As a CUPE member in British Columbia YOU have the legal right to refuse unsafe work, according to the Workers' Compensation Act, Occupational Health and Safety Regulation – Section 3.12. When YOU believe that a work process or operation of a tool or equipment presents an undue hazard to YOUR health or safety, or to the health and safety of any person, then YOU can refuse that work.

Here's how YOU can refuse unsafe work...

1. If you believe that an undue hazard exists at your worksite, you are forbidden to carry out any work.
2. Notify your supervisor or employer of the unsafe condition, and your refusal to work.
3. The supervisor or employer must investigate and remedy the situation without delay, and inform you of the results.
4. If you are not satisfied with the remedy, you can still refuse to work. The supervisor or employer must conduct the investigation with you and the workers' health and safety representative or union.
5. If the investigation does not resolve the matter, continue to refuse work.
6. Either you or your employer must inform an officer of the Workers' Compensation Board to investigate.

YOU cannot be disciplined for complying with the legislation and regulations, according to the Workers' Compensation Act, Occupational Health and Safety Regulation – Section 3.13.

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

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**

B.C. Regional Office  
Suite 500 – 4940 Canada Way  
Burnaby, B.C., V5G 4T3  
Tel. (604) 291-1940  
Fax (604) 291-1194

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)