

New Brunswick

As a CUPE member in New Brunswick YOU have the legal right to refuse unsafe work, according to the Occupational Health and Safety Act – Section 19, when YOU believe that an act is likely to endanger YOUR health and safety or that of another employee.

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

1. If you believe that a dangerous situation exists at work, you have the right to refuse unsafe work.
2. Notify your supervisor about your concerns, and refuse the unsafe work.
3. The supervisor must investigate the situation in your presence, and take appropriate action or recommend action to the employer.
4. If the matter has not been resolved to your satisfaction, refer the matter to the joint health and safety committee. Where a committee does not exist, contact a government occupational health and safety officer.
5. If the matter is still not resolved to your satisfaction by the committee, you can refer the matter to a government occupational health and safety officer.
6. The officer will investigate and order remedial action. The written findings will be given to you, the employer, and the committee.

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

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 National Health and Safety Branch at:

Canadian Union of Public Employees

National Health and Safety Branch

1375 St. Laurent Blvd.

Ottawa, Ontario K1G -0Z7

Tel. (613) 237-1590

Fax (613) 237-5508

Email: Health_safety@cupe.ca