

Newfoundland and Labrador

As a CUPE member in Newfoundland and Labrador YOU have the legal right to refuse unsafe work, according to the Occupational Health and Safety Act – Section 45, when there is reasonable grounds to believe that the work, tool, or equipment is dangerous to YOU or another person's health and safety.

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 the work.
2. Notify your supervisor about your concerns, and refuse the unsafe work. The employer must take remedial action.
3. If you are not satisfied with the remedy, ask the occupational health and safety committee or the worker health and safety representative to investigate.
4. If the matter is still not resolved to your satisfaction, you can report your concerns to the government's Occupational Health and Safety Division or an officer, either in writing or orally.

YOU cannot be discriminated against through dismissal, discipline or reduction of either wages or benefits for complying with the legislation, according to the Occupational Health and Safety Act – Section 49.

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

Atlantic Regional Office
308 – 7071 Bayer Road
Starlite Building
Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3L 2C2
Tel. (902) 455-4180
Fax (902) 455-5915

Or contact the CUPE National
Health and Safety Branch at:
Tel. (613) 237-1590
Fax (613) 237-5508
Email: Health_safety@cupe.ca