

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

As a Worker, you have three important rights!

You have the RIGHT TO KNOW...

- About hazards in the workplace and how to protect yourself.

You have the RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE...

- With keeping your workplace safe by identifying and reporting workplace health and safety concerns.
- By becoming a Safety Rep/Safety Committee Member if your workplace has one.
- In all safety training.

Employers must ensure that workers have the necessary information, training, and supervision to perform their work safely.

You have the RIGHT TO REFUSE UNSAFE WORK!

Did you know most workers have the right to refuse unsafe work if they believe they are at risk of injury? In Canada you can refuse unsafe work if you believe you are in direct danger or believe your performance of an activity places you in danger. There are some exceptions to this right, please ask your supervisor if you are unsure.

When can you refuse unsafe work?

Some examples of when a worker can refuse unsafe work include:

- If a machine, piece of equipment or tool that the worker is using or is told to use is likely to endanger themselves or another person.
- If the physical condition of the workplace or work station is likely to endanger the worker.
- If the worker does not have the proper training or feels insufficiently trained.
- If the worker does not have the proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) or if the PPE is defective.

If you feel the work you are being asked to perform is unsafe, speak up and tell your supervisor immediately. It is their job to investigate and work with you to ensure the job is safe. Keep in mind, when you exercise your right to refuse work, you must follow the proper procedure.

Did you know?

It is against the law for an employer to punish a worker for refusing work they believe to be unsafe.



Your workplace's Health and Safety board is a great resource for Health and Safety information!