



Stand for Safety

SEIU-West Worker Safety Committee

September 2019

Worker Safety Committee Mission Statement:

Create strategies and programs that broaden awareness of safety for all SEIU West members. We will strive to be a knowledgeable resource for staff, Executive Board and members and offer education and support for all members on matters relating to Occupational Health and Safety.

Know your OH&S Rights under the *Saskatchewan Employment Act*

1. RIGHT TO KNOW

It's your right to know the hazards at work and how to control them. The employer must show you the safe way to do your job. For example:

- proper use of equipment
- preventing repetitive strain injuries
- Safety Data Sheets for all products used in your job

2. RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE

All workplaces with 10 or more workers MUST have an Occupational Health and Safety Committee (OHC). At least half of the OHC members must be workers. OHCs must:

- Meet regularly
- Inspect workplace regularly
- Gather & record OH&S hazards, issues, & concerns
- Investigate incidents and refusals to work
- Give advice & recommendations to employer

If your supervisor can't or won't help you with your safety concerns, contact a member of your OHC.

3. RIGHT TO REFUSE

You have the right to refuse any specific task which you reasonably believe is unusually dangerous to you or to any other person. An unusual danger could include:

- A danger that is not part of your job (e.g. repairing a roof in high winds)
- A danger that would normally stop work (e.g. operating equipment that has a flat tire)
- A situation for which you are not properly trained, equipped, or experienced (e.g. cleaning windows on a tall building with no fall protection equipment or training)

You can not be fired or disciplined for using this right.

Your Responsibilities:

- Understand and comply with legislation and workplace health and safety requirements.
- Follow safe work procedures
- Use safety equipment, machine guards, safety devices, and personal protective equipment
- Report incidents (accidents and near-misses), injuries, or illness to your manager and your OHC immediately! If you do not report an incident, it never happened!
- Report unsafe acts and workplace hazards
- Work and act safely and help others to work and act safely
- Cooperate with OHC and others on health and safety issues
- Refrain from causing or participating in the harassment or bullying of other workers



Check out our committee page on www.SEIUWEST.ca.