

Workplace Safety

Quick Fact Sheet

- ✓ All workers have three basic rights:

Worker Rights	How & When to Use Them
The right to refuse unusually dangerous work	When you are asked to do something <u>outside your normal duties</u> at work. You can also refuse if you have <u>not been properly trained</u> to complete the task.
The right to know about hazards in the workplace	<u>STOP & ASK</u> if you do not know how to do a job safely OR if you do not understand the dangers of your job.
The right to participate in health and safety activities in the workplace	<u>Provide input</u> about safety practices or procedures, ask about the <u>Occupational Health & Safety Committee</u> , always report unsafe conditions, unsafe actions, and all injuries!

Worker Responsibilities	
You must tell your supervisor if you get hurt!	You must tell your supervisor if you ALMOST get
You must tell your supervisor if you see anything that <u>could</u> hurt someone! (that's called an <u>unsafe condition</u>)	You must STOP & ASK if you don't know how to do your job safely OR if you don't know about what might be dangerous about your job.
YOU MUST WORK SAFELY!	

- ✓ All workers also have responsibilities:
- ✓ In 2017, there were 1,732 injuries in the service and hospitality industries. That is the lowest number of injuries in at least 11 years!
- ✓ You can find all the safety requirements in the **Saskatchewan Employment Act** and the **Occupational Health & Safety Regulations, 1996**.

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Discussion Questions

Use the Quick Fact Sheet to guide participants through the following discussion questions.

1. Provide examples of when each of the three rights may be used.

Worker Rights	Examples
The right to refuse unusually dangerous work	If you are asked to clean the bathrooms, the job itself is not unusually dangerous. But if you have not been trained, you have the right to refuse, until you have been properly trained on how to work safely with the cleaning chemicals.
The right to know about hazards in the workplace	If you are asked to climb a ladder to change a lightbulb, you have the right to ask about the hazards of the job, and what is in place to keep you safe. Is the proper type of ladder used so don't get electrocuted?
The right to participate in health and safety activities in the workplace	Report all safety concerns – did you see something that <i>is dangerous or could be dangerous</i> ? Provide feedback to your supervisor and to the Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S) Committee. Not sure if you have an OH&S Committee? – ASK!

2. The fact sheet lists responsibilities of workers, but your employer also has some responsibilities. What are those responsibilities, and why are they necessary?

- ◆ Employers must make sure the workplace is safe.
- ◆ Employers must work with the workplace Occupational Health & Safety Committee.
- ◆ Employers must keep you safe from harassment.
- ◆ Employers must train you to do your job safely and ensure you are supervised.

3. Have you received safety training? What was it like? Was it at work, or somewhere else, such as somewhere you volunteer, or at a sporting event?

4. Look around the room you are in. If you were asked to clean this room, what questions would you have about your safety? Do you feel you have been adequately trained to complete the job? Remember ... you must STOP AND ASK if you are unsure about the risks of a job, or unsure of how to complete the job safely.

5. Who can you ask about safety in the workplace?