

Are **you** in danger?

This summer, **thousands of students** across Canada will get jobs in small and medium-sized businesses and institutions such as hospitals and schools.

Some will be ambassadors for community festivals, while others will create Web pages for local businesses. Entrepreneurial youth will create their own jobs or volunteer to help with hundreds of community projects.

It is important for young Canadians to be aware of health and safety in the workplace, especially as they begin their summer jobs. Both employers and employees have responsibilities when it comes to health and safety in the workplace.



Why is **Health and Safety** Awareness important?

- ◆ It could save your life!
- ◆ It could prevent you from getting injured.
- ◆ Something tragic could happen to you, even on your first day of work.
- ◆ You need to be aware of potential hazards in the workplace.
- ◆ You need to help others become aware.
- ◆ You need to know what protection and compensation are available to you.
- ◆ Proper training is vital for your safety.

CHECK OUT
Common Myths
and Realities

INSIDE



Myths & Realities

1 *I can take risks. I won't die.*

In 2005, 118 workers between 15 and 29 died in the workplace in Canada.

2 *I can handle anything. I'm young and fit.*

Over one-quarter of all occupational injuries happen to workers between the ages of 15 and 29 (26.8%).

3 *Nothing will happen to me. I'm safe at work.*

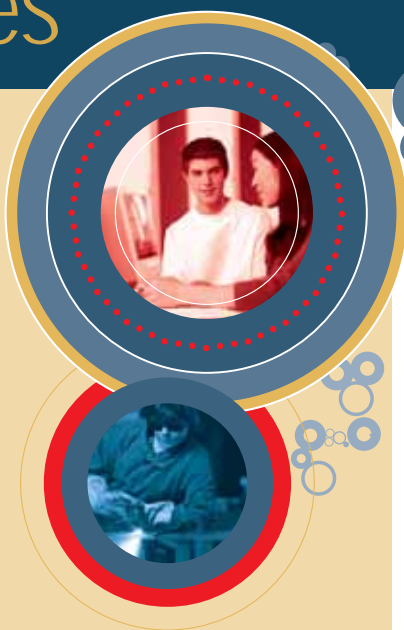
More people are injured on the job than in traffic accidents.

4 *I must do any job my employer tells me to do.*

You have the right to refuse unsafe work.

5 *I am not responsible for workplace safety. This is my employer's responsibility.*

You are responsible for knowing and complying with all workplace regulations.



You have **three fundamental rights**

- ◆ The right to know.
- ◆ The right to participate.
- ◆ The right to refuse unsafe work.

Employer & Employee Responsibilities

Employer's responsibilities

- ◆ Provide a safe and healthy workplace.
- ◆ Train employees on potential hazards and ensure employees have the required certification.
- ◆ Correct unsafe actions and conditions.
- ◆ Ensure protective equipment is available and being used.
- ◆ Report and investigate all accidents and incidents.

Employee's responsibilities

- ◆ Know and comply with all regulations.
- ◆ Protect yourself, your co-workers and members of the public who may be affected by your actions.
- ◆ Report unsafe actions and unsafe conditions to your employer.
- ◆ Use protective equipment as required by the employer.
- ◆ Report any accident, incident or illness immediately to your employer.

Observation, learning and experience are key to recognizing potential safety hazards in the workplace!

Source: Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) at <http://www.ccohs.ca/>.

To order additional copies of this publication, call **1 800 O-Canada**.

For more information on health and safety in the workplace, visit the Canada Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) at **www.ccohs.ca**.