

A GUIDE: Teacher's Right to Refuse Unsafe Works

s.43 Occupational Health and Safety Act



This is meant as a general summary of your right to refuse unsafe work. It is not intended as legal advice. The NSTU is here to assist Teachers with occupational health and safety matters. Teachers are encouraged to contact their NSTU Staff Officer for assistance if they are concerned about a health or safety hazard in the workplace. For a more comprehensive guide please visit: English: <https://bit.ly/3inpowE>; French <https://bit.ly/3ijKID4>.

Although you cannot refuse to work merely because of the Covid-19 pandemic, like every other employee in the Province of Nova Scotia, a Teacher has the right to refuse unsafe work if they have *reasonable grounds* to believe that their work is likely to endanger their health or safety or the health or safety of any other person. This is an individual right that is guaranteed under section 43 of Nova Scotia's *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

How do Teachers exercise this right?

In order to exercise this right a Teacher must proceed according to the following steps:

