

## *Safety and Your Cooperative/Practicum Work Experience*

### **Know your rights...**

The *Saskatchewan Employment Act* provides you with three basic rights as a student worker:

1. The right to **know** about the things that could hurt you at work and how to deal with them
2. The right to **participate** in finding and controlling workplace safety issues
3. The right to **refuse** work that you believe is unsafe

### **Right to Know**

You have the right to get information about how to be safe in your workplace. If your supervisor doesn't tell you, **ask!** Ensure you know what can potentially hurt you at your workplace and ensure you understand the right way to stay safe.

### **Right to Refuse**

You have the right to refuse to do anything you **have reasonable grounds to believe is unsafe**. An unusual danger could include:

- A danger that is not normal for the job (e.g., field sampling in inclement weather);
- A situation for which you are not properly trained, equipped, or experienced to do the work assigned (e.g., dealing with an aggressive person, working alone or in an isolated area without means of communication).

### **Right to Participate**

If your supervisor is unable to help you with your safety concerns, discuss the concerns with your academic supervisor/placement coordinator.

### **How you can help to ensure your safety**

- Follow safe work procedures set out by your workplace;
- Use safety equipment, machine guards, safety devices, and personal protective equipment;
- Find out how to report unsafe situations;
- Report incidents and dangerous occurrences, injuries, or illnesses immediately to your workplace supervisor and placement coordinator;
- Work and act safely and help others to work and act safely;
- Co-operate with committees and others on health and safety issues; and
- Refrain from causing or participating in the harassment of another worker or student.