



WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY

ENSURING WE ALL GET HOME SAFE

Until 2017, workers in Alberta were working under an occupational health and safety system that was 40 years old. Alberta workers didn't have the same rights and protections as other Canadians - even though they were exposed to some of the most strenuous and dangerous working conditions in the country.

Thanks to the NDP government's new laws, every worker in Alberta now has enshrined rights that keep them protected on the job, and employers, supervisors and owners are responsible for the health and safety of their workers — including against violence and harassment. And there are penalties for employers who don't do their part.

Whether we're working in labs, diagnostic imaging, emergency medicine, therapy, addictions or any of the 240 professional disciplines we represent, HSA members spend every day of our working lives caring for Albertans. We believe everyone has a right to a safe, healthy workplace.

WHAT'S AT STAKE?



We can't go back to the days when employees were pressured to take unnecessary risks. Or when getting hurt on the job meant your family wouldn't have food on the table. And we can't go back to when harassment was just something you had to deal with at work.

When we hear politicians talk about cutting 'regulations' they mean they want to strip the laws that help keep workers safe. We can't risk electing a government that will take health and safety laws back to the old days — no one should have to sacrifice their physical or mental health to make a living.

In this election, we're asking HSA members and all Albertans to make health care a priority. Being safe at work is a big part of being healthy; let's not let government take away the right to a safe workplace.

WHERE DO THE PARTIES STAND?

While neither of the main parties has released their party platforms, we can learn a lot from their public statements and from their records. Here's a quick rundown of where the NDP and the UCP stand on workplace health and safety:



JASON KENNEY AND THE UCP



RACHEL NOTLEY AND THE NDP



MODERN LAWS THAT KEEP WORKERS SAFE.

AGAINST.

Will conduct a detailed review of the updated laws to make sure Alberta workplaces are competitive.

Will appoint a Minister of Deregulation to cut regulations by 1/3. Source: Edmonton Journal, October 15, 2018

UCP members voted against changes to employment standards and safety.

IN FAVOUR.

Overhauled Occupational Health and Safety laws, including the right for all workers to refuse unsafe work, requirement for employers to have a health and safety program and to inform workers about potential hazards, along with mandatory joint work place health and safety committees.

Introduced new laws to support workers through long-term illness and injury.

Changed employment standards to improve work/life balance for all workers.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

HOW DO WE ENSURE WE PROTECT OURSELVES AND OUR LOVED ONES ON THE JOB?

We need to speak up to ensure the UCP doesn't turn the clock back on workplace protections.

HSAA has launched a province-wide campaign to raise awareness about what's at stake in this election. It's too important to stay silent.



WATCH THE AD.



SHARE IT IN YOUR NETWORKS.



TALK TO YOUR COLLEAGUES.



TALK TO YOUR NEIGHBOURS.



VOTE!