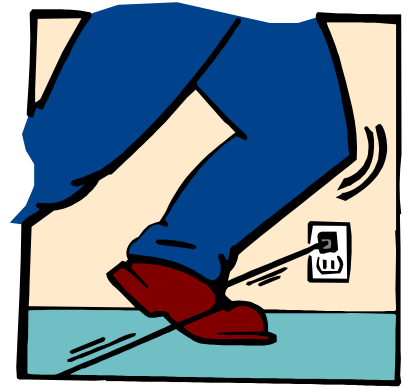


OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH and SAFETY

A reminder to ALL workplaces to contact NT DET in relation to forming their Designated Work Groups (DWG) and election of their Health and Safety Representative (HSR) as per the 'Revocation and Re-issue of Employment Instruction 12' notice from the Commissioner for Public Employment 22/4/09

[www.ocpe.nt.gov.au/about/commissioner/commissioners_bulletins]

The Workplace Health and Safety Act 2008 pages 15 to 19 are clear in giving the mandate of self-regulation to individual sites. It is advisable for the HSR to be a Union member and to be familiar with the Act and regulations. Responsibilities for management of Occupation Health and Safety are delegated to our schools and workplaces. Refer to NT WorkSafe bulletins 18.01.01 to 18.01.05 [www.worksafe.nt.gov.au/]



The role of the HSR is crucial (see page 18 no. 38) of the Act "Functions of Health and Safety Representative". To this end these powers are explicit, and we have over 170 workplaces, if your worksite is having problems in forming your DWG, "the Act provides that NT WorkSafe can in fact determine what the work groups will be and establish them." (Bulletin 18.01.03 last sentence). However the Employment instruction number 12 /3 Agency Action Required is clear that "Chief Executive Officers will develop programs...."

Refer to the Public Service Employment Management Act - Employment instruction number 12

[www.ocpe.nt.gov.au/legislation/psema/employment_instructions] and to NT WorkSafe and familiarise yourself with the provisions of the Act. Do not hesitate to contact them and if you encounter problems.

The AEU-NT would like to know of any difficulties encountered, and the workplaces who have complied. Stress resulting from bullying, harassment and violence is one of the highest costs in workers compensation, and this can be addressed by being proactive at the workplace.

Health and Safety Reps / Designated Work Groups : Useful websites include:-

www.worksafe.nt.gov.au

www.ocpe.nt.gov.au/about/commissioner/commissioners_bulletins

www.ocpe.nt.gov.au/legislation/psema/employment_instructions

www.aeunt.org.au