



## Policy

Saskatoon & Area - Occupational Health & Safety

**Number:** 53-001

**Title:** Physical Hazard: Air Quality

**Saskatchewan Employment Act:**

**OHS Regulation:** Part 6, 6-2 to 6-4, 7-3

**Date:** January 1, 2017

**Date Revised/Reaffirmed:** December 2, 2021

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### Purpose

- To ensure the adequate supply of clean, wholesome air and ventilation to SHA facilities
- To ensure workers are aware to report when they feel the air is unsafe
- Ongoing maintenance of air circulation throughout the place of employment

### Definition

“Air Quality” refers to air that is harmless and inoffensive. The air is free of an accumulative amount of contaminants or impurities. The degree to which the ambient air is pollution-free is assessed by measuring a number of indicators of pollution.

### Roles and Responsibilities

Employer must ensure:

- Adequate ventilation is in place
- A mechanical ventilation system is in place and is sufficient and suitable to protect the workers from air that could cause harm
- The system is cleaned and regularly maintained

Manager/Supervisor must ensure:

- That roles and responsibilities of all workers are being met, as well as applicable legislation and/or standards
- Only competent workers inspect and maintain all parts of the ventilation system
- All ventilation openings are free of obstructions or sources of contamination
- Records are kept of all inspections, maintenance and cleanings
- That an effective plan is in place and communicated for the immediate protection of all workers in the event of a failure of the system
- Communicate the results of the air quality investigation to inhabitants of the facility, workers and the Occupational Health Committee

Worker must ensure:

- They report to their supervisor and the Safety Alert System / Incident Report Line any unsafe conditions that may occur in the quality of air or with the system itself

**Orientation & Training**

- Training in all policies and procedures related to air quality
- Site or department specific training about any related tasks involving the mechanical ventilation system
- Training on use and care of appropriate PPE related to tasks involving the mechanical ventilation system

**Materials**

- Copies of policies and procedures related to tasks involving the mechanical ventilation system
- Appropriate PPE if required

**Non-Compliance/Breach:**

Non-compliance with this policy will result in a review of the incident. A review for non-compliance may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or privileges; fines and /or prosecution of individuals under the Saskatchewan Employment Act and OHS Regulations.

Review Dates:

January 1, 2017

May 14, 2018

December 2, 2021