
A Woman's Rights at Work



Rose walked up to the front door of the apartment building. “Good morning, Rose,” Sandra said. Sandra, Rose’s neighbor, stopped to chat. “Rose, you look sad this morning. What’s wrong?” asked Sandra. Rose said she was afraid her employer would fire her when he found out she was pregnant. Sandra was surprised and said, “He can’t do that. It’s against the law.”

Sandra told Rose about her rights in the workplace. “Rose, you’ve been employed full time in that store for more than a year. You always arrive on time for your shift. Your employer has increased your hourly wage twice this year. That shows that he’s happy with your work. You can keep working until you have your baby. Canadian law says that your employer can’t fire you just because you’re pregnant. You can quit your job or you could ask to work part time, but that’s your choice.”

Rose felt better. She was glad that Sandra had been in Canada for a long time and knew about employment laws. Rose and Sandra looked in the blue pages in the phone book. They found the number of the Employment Standards Council in case Rose needed more information. Then they had a cup of tea.