

WE CAN'T AFFORD TO CUT WATER SAFETY!



Toronto Water provides clean, safe drinking to more than 4 million people every day (that's counting sales to Peel and York regions) – and it's all done with only eight plant technicians – two per plant – on shift at any given time.

And now the city is considering cutting that number of technicians in half next year, leaving only one person on shift in each water filtration plant.

Plant technicians are the people responsible for testing the water, maintaining appropriate chemical levels and containing leaks of potentially deadly chemicals like chlorine and sulfur dioxide. The safety of our drinking water is in their hands.

The safety of our drinking water will be at risk with only one technician on the job – all for the sake of saving less than one-third of 1% of the city's operating budget.

You can help protect Toronto's drinking water

Please send a message to Mayor David Miller and the members of Toronto City Council. Tell them that Toronto cannot afford to cut water safety.

Contact information is on the back of this flyer. You can send your own message or visit www.cupe.ca/action/torontowater to send an email to all members of council.

What's the risk with one technician on duty?

- Automation doesn't work 100% of the time and not all plants are fully automated. That means the technician has to leave the control room.
- After power outages, which are frequent, pumps must be reset and chemicals fixed manually. Again, the technician must leave the control room.
- Response to chemical leaks may be slower — it takes two to put on a chemical suit and air pack. Leak containers will hold one ton of chlorine, but plants work with up to five live tons.
- Problems can occur if the sole technician is injured or falls ill on the job.

Cutting water safety is a danger to the public, to workers and to expensive equipment in our water plants



Toronto Civic Employees Union Local 416 Toronto Water