

TOBACCO FREE ENVIRONMENT

Background

The Division recognizes its responsibility to promote a healthy lifestyle and ensure a tobacco free environment for the health and welfare of students, staff members and visitors. It is the intention of this procedure to be consistent with all provincial and municipal statute ordinances related to the prohibition of the use, possession or distribution of tobacco products.

The Division supports the creation of a tobacco free environment in its schools and facilities and on all school and Division property.

Definition

Tobacco – is defined to include any lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, bidi, clove cigarette, e-cigarette and any other smoking product, and spit tobacco, also known as smokeless, dip, chew and snuff, in any form.

Procedures

1. Smoking and use of tobacco products shall be prohibited in all Division facilities and on all Division properties.
 - 1.1 No student or staff member is permitted to use tobacco products at any time, including non-school hours
 - 1.1.1 In any building, facility or vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by the Division/school;
 - 1.1.2 On school grounds or parking lots.
 - 1.2 Students are not allowed to use tobacco products at any school-sponsored event off campus.
 - 1.3 Staff/supervisors are not allowed to use tobacco products while in direct supervision of students.
2. Appropriate signs will be placed in conspicuous places in all Division facilities and properties, and suitable notification will be made in all student handbooks.
3. Community groups utilizing Division facilities shall be advised of the use of tobacco products prohibition and usage shall be subject to cancellation for contravention.
4. New employees shall be advised of the prohibition at the time of hiring.

5. Principals are encouraged to implement educational programs for students and staff designed to inform participants about the health risks associated with the use of tobacco products.
6. Principals are responsible for:
 - 6.1 Ensuring that staff and adult students do not use tobacco products in school facilities or on school property.
 - 6.2 Advising adult user group participants that school facilities and school property are tobacco free.
7. This prohibition does not apply to the use of tobacco for ceremonial events.

Reference: Sections 85, 87, 109, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 175, 231 Education Act
Occupational Health and Safety Act