



**POLICY:** GBK  
**SUBJECT:** SMOKING AND VAPOUR PRODUCTS  
**APPROVAL DATE:** December 5, 1989  
**REVISION DATE:** August 2003, September 11, 2006  
May 7, 2007, March 16, 2015,  
December 3, 2018  
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## 1. GENERAL

- 1.1 In accordance with the Cannabis Control Act, Smoking and Vapour Products Control Act, Winnipeg School Division (WSD) Policies and applicable legislation, the use of cannabis and vapour products is prohibited on WSD property.
- WSD as an employer and educational organization is committed to promoting a safe and healthy learning environment for staff and students.
- 1.2 WSD will engage in preventative practices and promote social responsibility and positive behavior rather than implementing negative consequences as outlined in the Provincial Code of Conduct - Appropriate Interventions and Disciplinary Consequences, when appropriate.
- 1.3 The use/possession/display of tobacco products, cannabis or illicit drugs or accessories at school or on school/division property will not be tolerated.
- 1.4 The use/possession/display of tobacco products, cannabis or illicit drugs or accessories at school events or field trips will not be tolerated.
- 1.5 Individual accommodation requests for the use of cannabis for medical purposes will be referred to the Director of Human Resources or appropriate Superintendent.
- 1.6 WSD believes it has a responsibility to educate students and staff on the risks associated with the smoking and/or vaping tobacco products, cannabis or illicit drugs.
- 1.7 WSD is committed to providing an ongoing educational program which will promote a smoke- free lifestyle. Materials prepared by the Manitoba Heart Foundation, the Canadian Cancer Society and Manitoba Health will be used as educational material.
- 1.8 Smoking Cessation Programs will be made available to students and staff requesting assistance.
- 1.9 WSD will provide counseling or make referrals to agencies for students and staff requesting assistance.
- 1.10 This policy does not prohibit the use/possession/display of tobacco for Indigenous cultural purposes on school property.

## 2. DEFINITIONS (As outlined in the Smoking and Vapour Products Act)

### 2.1 Cannabis

Cannabis, also known as marijuana, is a psychoactive drug from the Cannabis plant used for medical or recreational purposes. There are two different types of plant, the cannabis sativa or

the cannabis indica plant, which can be inhaled, consumed (eaten or drank) or absorbed through the skin.

### 2.2 “e-cigarette” means either of the following:

- a) a product or device, whether or not it resembles a cigarette, containing a power source and heating element designed to vaporize an e-substance for inhalation or release into the air,



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- b) a product or device prescribed by regulation similar in nature or use to a product or device described in clause (a);
- 2.3 “e-substance” means a solid, liquid or gas that, on being heated, produces a vapour for use in an e-cigarette;
- 2.4 “smoking” means
- a) smoking a cigarette, cigar, pipe or other device used for smoking tobacco or cannabis, or
  - b) having control of a lighted cigarette, cigar, pipe or other device used for smoking tobacco or cannabis;
- 2.5 “tobacco” means tobacco in any form in which it is used or consumed, and includes cigarettes, cigars, snuff and raw leaf tobacco.
- 2.6 “tobacco-related product” means a cigarette paper, cigarette tube, cigarette filter, cigarette maker or pipe, or anything used in association with tobacco.
- 2.7 “Cannabis accessory” means rolling papers, pipes, bongs or vapourizers
- 2.8 “use”, in relation to an e-cigarette, means
- a) to vapourize an e-substance for inhalation or release into the air by means of an e-cigarette, or
  - b) to have control of an e-cigarette in which an e-substance is being vapourized;
- 2.9 “vapour product” means any of the following:
- a) an e-cigarette
  - b) an e-substance
  - c) a cartridge for or a component of an e-cigarette
- 2.10 “staff/employee” includes
- a) any person who is employed by an employer to perform a service, including a volunteer,
  - b) any person who is engaged by another person to perform a service, whether under a contract of employment or not, and
  - c) any person who is receiving instruction or training, or serving an apprenticeship;
- 3. SMOKE AND VAPOUR FREE ENVIRONMENT (24 hours)**
- 3.1 WSD buildings, vehicles and property, shall be smoke and vapour free at all times.
- 3.2 Smoking or vaping by students, staff and any other persons shall be prohibited in WSD buildings, WSD vehicles and on school property.
- 3.3 Signage
- WSD shall display signage prohibiting smoking or vaping on WSD property.



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- 3.4 The public display of cannabis or vaping products and other accessories in school buildings shall be banned except for religious or ceremonial usages and anti-smoking promotions.

#### **4. TRADITIONAL INDIGENOUS PRACTICES**

WSD recognizes that the Winnipeg School Division resides on Treaty One Land and the traditional homeland of the Metis Nation. WSD believes that Indigenous Education benefits all students/staff and members of the community.

If an activity is carried out for a traditional Indigenous spiritual or cultural practice or ceremony, this Policy does not prohibit:

- a) an Indigenous person from using tobacco;
- b) a non-Indigenous person from using tobacco with an Indigenous person; or
- c) a person from supplying or offering to supply tobacco or a tobacco-related product to a person described in clause a) or b);
- d) no person shall supply or offer to supply tobacco or a tobacco-related product to a child unless the gift is intended solely for use in traditional Indigenous spiritual or cultural practices or ceremonies.

#### **5. ACCOMMODATIONS**

- 5.1 While the medical cannabis regime will remain under the federal government's jurisdiction, regulations made under The Smoking and Vapours Products Control Act allows medical cannabis users to medicate in some public places, except as follows:

- within eight metres of a building to which the public has access;
- within eight metres of a playground;
- on the property of an educational institution or facility

- 5.2 Staff who require accommodations for the use of cannabis for medical purposes as delivered by a physician must advise and consult with the Director of Human Resources.

#### **6. RESPONSIBILITY**

##### **6.1 Chief Superintendent/CEO**

The Chief Superintendent/CEO or designate shall be responsible for the administration of this policy and the development of procedures to facilitate implementation.

##### **6.2 Superintendents/Directors**

Superintendents/Directors, School Administrators and Building Managers shall be responsible for the implementation and ongoing administration of this policy with regard to staff in their section, department or building and/or students in and visitors to the school.

##### **6.3 Staff**

All staff shall be responsible for monitoring the implementation of this policy.



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## **7. INTERVENTIONS/CONSEQUENCES**

### **7.1 Staff**

Interventions and/or consequences will be applied with staff who do not adhere to the Smoking and Vapour Products policy as follows:

For staff, failure to comply with the policy will result in consequences that may include:

- verbal warning
- suspension without pay
- and/or termination of employment

When appropriate, WSD will provide staff with resources and opportunities that would promote a healthier lifestyle.

### **7.2 Students**

For students, failure to comply with the policy will result in interventions/consequences that may include:

- first offence – verbal warning in school
- second offence – in school suspension
- third offence – out of school suspension
- fourth and a fifth offense – subsequent offences will be referred to Superintendent's Department and/or Board of Trustees

When appropriate, minor offences may involve an informal discussion with the student to discuss acceptable behavior. This approach may require the principal to contact the parent/guardian to discuss the future expectations of the student. The principal shall offer or provide the student with information related to the cessation program or make a referral to an outside agency for assistance.

After each offence, the parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified and a suspension report will be prepared.