

City of Summerside
Tobacco Free Indoor/Outdoor Recreation Facilities Policy
P-CS-13

Approved August 18, 2008 Effective October 1, 2008

Policy

1.0 Introduction

The City of Summerside recognizes that exposure of non-smokers to tobacco smoke (passive smoking) is hazardous to health and that non-smokers should be protected. Passive smoking can lead to serious illnesses in adults, such as bronchitis, lung cancer and cardiovascular disease. Children can also develop chest illnesses and asthma from exposure to tobacco smoke.

The City of Summerside also recognizes that the use of tobacco in any form is harmful to the user. The use of spit tobacco (snuff, chew, plug, etc.) has severe health risks. Spit tobacco usage is known to cause serious illnesses such as cancers of the throat and mouth, leukoplakia, gum and tooth disease and loss of bone in jaw. It is also understood that children and young adults do not recognize the health hazards of spit tobacco as commonly as the threats of smoking.

2.0 Purpose

Accordingly, the following policy has been developed by the City of Summerside to protect the health of all concerned with an emphasis placed on children. Children who are in frequent contact with adults who smoke are also more likely to become smokers themselves.

The City of Summerside is committed to providing an ideal location to live, recreate and visit. By implementing this below policy the City of Summerside is making a tremendous step in the right direction to ensuring our commitments are met.

Legislation and the legal duty of care also provide clear reasons to have tobacco-free facilities. Under common law the City of Summerside has a legal duty of care to ensure that employees, volunteers, players and officials are not exposed to potentially harmful situations.

3.0 Application

This policy applies to all individuals (participants, officials, coaches, players, parents, visitors and volunteers) partaking in any sport or recreational activity taking place at the City of Summerside indoor or outdoor facilities. This policy also applies at all times.

4.0 Designated Facilities

4.1 The following indoor and outdoor facilities are hereby designated as tobacco-free and no person shall smoke or use tobacco in any form:

Green Spaces

- Green Shore [West end park green space portion, NOT Boardwalk
- Wilmot [park and playground area]

Ball Fields

- Queen Elizabeth Ball Park
- VIV
- Baseball Field
- Gordie Arsenault
- Greenfield
- Lefurgey
- Wilmot
- Lions
- Slemon Park

Facilities

- Credit Union Place [parking lot, sidewalks and entry ways]
- Wilmot Community Centre [parking lot, sidewalks and entry ways]
- St. Eleanors Community Centre [parking lots, sidewalks, and entry ways]

4.2 This policy applies to all areas in and around the designated tobacco free facilities including:

- administration and office areas;
- social/club rooms;
- all change rooms and toilet blocks;
- indoor and outdoor spectator viewing areas;
- indoor and outdoor playing areas;
- all eating areas; and
- all areas within the perimeter of the grounds of all of the designated facilities.

5.0 Functions

5.1 All official City of Summerside functions, will be 100% tobacco-free. Such functions include

- dinners;
- fund-raising events;
- parades;
- meetings;
- social occasions; and
- any other event or function.

6.0 Awareness and Enforcement Strategy

6.1 The following three step non-compliance strategy will be followed if anyone breaches the City of Summerside Tobacco-Free Policy.

- Assume that the person is unaware of the tobacco-free policy;
- The City of Summerside will display signage where appropriate that all facilities are tobacco-free;
- The City of Summerside will support initiatives that promote awareness to the public of the dangers of tobacco products.

6.2 The following media will remind patrons about the City of Summerside Tobacco Free Policy

- tobacco-free signs
- invitations
- dinner menus

- announcements
- table signage
- function speeches.

7.0 Sale of Tobacco Products

Tobacco products will not be sold at any of the facilities or events under the direct control of the City of Summerside.

8.0 Affiliated Clubs

The City of Summerside will actively encourage and support its sport and recreation organizations to also be tobacco-free.

9.0 Junior Sport

The following steps will be taken to ensure that all junior sport under the control of the City of Summerside is conducted in a 100% tobacco-free environment:

- All coaching courses will highlight the importance of role modelling tobacco-free behaviour to junior members;
- All affiliated clubs will be required to have all junior competitions and events 100% tobacco-free. This includes all indoor and outdoor playing areas;
- All junior events and competitions directly sanctioned by the City of Summerside will be 100% tobacco-free. This includes all indoor and outdoor playing areas; and
- Well-known elite athletes within the sport will be enlisted as tobacco-free role models.

10.0 Effective Date

The effective date of this Policy is October 1, 2008