



SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT

POLICY #: F-29

AUTHORITY: 99-251/03-106/13-73

POLICY STATEMENT

The Northeastern Catholic District School Board (NCDSB) endeavors to provide and maintain learning and working environments which safeguard the health and welfare of students and employees. Such environments are free from the harmful effects of primary or secondary smoke and are in compliance with the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act* (S.O. 1994, c. 10), Municipal by-laws and the *Education Act* (R.S.O. 1990, c.e.2)

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Two pieces of provincial legislation apply to smoking in school board buildings and on board property. These are the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act* (S.O. 1994, c. 10) and the *Education Act* (R.S.O. 1990, c.E.2)

With respect to school sites, the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act*, sub-section 9(2), 1, prohibits smoking or holding lighted tobacco in a school as defined in the *Education Act*.

POLICY REGULATIONS

1. Smoking is prohibited in all premises and on all premises, owned, leased and/or operated by the Board, including school buildings, parking lots, sports fields, driveways, courtyards, or while in vehicles on school premises at all times.
2. Any individual or group using or renting school property is responsible for ensuring the property is kept smoke free as a condition of use.
3. Persons who fail to comply with the Act are subject to consequences as may be imposed by enforcement of the Smoke Free Ontario Act and/or Safe School policies and/or Codes of Conduct of the Northeastern Catholic District School Board and the school.
4. 'No smoking' signage will be posted at all entrances to schools and all locations where educational activities are taking place, including the NCDSB.
5. A copy of this policy will be made available in all schools and premises owned, leased and/or operated by the Board and will be made known to all Board employees.

6. Relevant material dealing with Smoke Free Ontario legislation and/or information relating to anti-smoking, smoking cessation and health will be posted at all schools and all locations where educational activities are taking place, including the Board Office.
7. The traditional use of tobacco that forms part of Aboriginal culture and spirituality is permissible where not prohibited by the Smoke Free Ontario Act.