# REGION OF OTTAWA-CARLETON RÉGION D'OTTAWA-CARLETON

MEMORANDUM NOTE DE SERVICE

Our File/N/Réf.

Your File/V/Réf. RC

DATE 21 December 1999

TO/DEST. Co-ordinator

Community Services Committee

FROM/EXP. Associate Medical Officer of Health

SUBJECT/OBJET ENFORCEMENT OF THE TOBACCO CONTROL ACT

To be listed on the Community

Information Previously Distributed

Services Agenda, 20 Jan 2000

## INTRODUCTION

The Ontario <u>Tobacco Control Act</u> makes it illegal to sell tobacco to anyone under the age of 19 years. This report describes the most recent efforts of the Health Department to achieve the Ministry of Health objective of a 90% tobacco vendor compliance rate with the Tobacco Control Act by the year 2000.

#### BACKGROUND

Since the enactment of the <u>Tobacco Control Act</u> in 1994, as a result of an enforcement strategy that has included education, surveillance, compliance and enforcement checks and prosecutions, there has been a decline in the number of tobacco vendors prepared to sell tobacco to underage youth.

#### RECENT SURVEY

The results of a compliance check conducted in October, 1999 show that 84% (n=201) of tobacco retailers in the Region of Ottawa-Carleton were in compliance with the <u>Tobacco Control Act</u>. This marks an improvement over a similar survey conducted in September-October, 1998 when the rate of compliance was 72%.

Between January 4 and December 20, 1999, surveillance and enforcement checks of tobacco vendors led to 25 sales convictions (Annex A). Also, as a result of previous convictions for sales offences under the <u>Tobacco Control Act</u>, three premises were prohibited from selling tobacco for a period of six months (Annex B).

#### PUBLIC CONSULTATION

No public consultation was conducted.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications that will result from this report at this time.

#### **CONCLUSION**

In order to achieve and maintain the Ministry of Health's objective, the enforcement strategy of education, surveillance, compliance and enforcement checks and prosecutions must be continued. Through this approach, we can reduce youth access to tobacco, which will result in a decrease in the use of tobacco among young people.

Approved b
Dr. Robert Cushman

#### JGA

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#### ANNEX A

# PREMISES IN OTTAWA-CARLETON WHERE CONVICTIONS HAVE BEEN OBTAINED FOR TOBACCO SALES OFFENCES FROM JANUARY 4, 1999 TO DECEMBER 20, 1999

York Lunch & Confectionery, 169 York Street

Globe Mags & Cigars, 57 William Street

Michel's Tobacco & Variety, 262 Dalhousie Street

Riverside Manor Tuck Shop, 1591 Riverside Drive

Pioneer Petroleum, 2026 Ogilvie Road

Pioneer Gas, Highway #7

Suny's Gas Bar, 6171 Perth Street

Bun N Run, 2158 Carling Avenue

Loeb, 2261 Walkley Road

Mr. Gas, 7881 Victoria Street

Petro Canada, 1432 Baseline Road

Hut Bazar, 497 Rideau Street

Quickie, 437 Albert Street

Dixie Dairy Store, 101 Main Street

Rideau East Tuck Shop, 170 Lees Avenue

Royal Gas, 2163 Highway #31

Ste. Monique Confectionery, 101 Marier Avenue

Sunoco Gas, 1448 Prince of Wales Drive

The James Street Feed Co., 390 Bank Street

Downtown Gas & Car Rental, 429 Somerset Street West

Stevens Foods, 340 Olmstead Street

Ultramar Gas, 1543 Merivale Road

Nick's Confectionery, 920 Montreal Road

Thana Food Store, 386 Bank Street

Greenbank Foods, 806 Greenbank Road

## ANNEX B

# PEMISES IN OTTAWA-CARLETON WHERE AUTOMATIC PROHIBITIONS WERE IMPOSED FROM JANUARY 4, 1999 TO DECEMBER 20, 1999

Convent Glen Lottery Depot, 6505 Jeanne D'Arc Blvd. Ultramar Gas, 6469 Jeanne D'Arc Blvd. Main Convenience Store, 64 Main Street