

ACTION

Subject: City of Ottawa's New Smoke-Free Regulations

Prepared by: Danielle McDonald, Chief Executive Officer

Prepared for: Ottawa Public Library Board

Meeting of: April 16, 2012

Date of preparation: April 2, 2012

RECOMMENDATION:

That the OPL Board endorse the Parks and Facility By-law 2004-276, as amended, that prohibits smoking anywhere on an outdoor area of municipal property and that it approve its application to all outdoor property under the authority of the Ottawa Public Library Board.

Attachments

1. City of Ottawa New Smoke-Free Regulations Letter, March 28, 2012

References

- Parks and Facility By-law 2004-276
- City Council Deposition, February 22, 2012
- City Council By-law Amendment, Smoke-Free Regulations, March 28, 2012

Background

Ottawa Public Health's consultations and public opinion research indicate strong support from residents for expanded smoke-free spaces. Ottawa has joined a growing number of municipalities that have made such places smoke-free. On March 28, 2012, the City of Ottawa adopted amendments to By-law 2004-276 to provide for more smoke-free spaces. The amendments are part of a strategy that is designed to protect children and non-smokers from second-hand smoke, while reducing smoking rates.

As of April 2, 2012, smoking is no longer permitted in all outdoor areas on municipal properties, including outdoor areas around City facilities. Streets and sidewalks are not included in the prohibited outdoor smoking areas. This amendment expands the older by-law that prohibited smoking within nine (9) metres of an entrance or exit of a City owned or leased building.

As part of the City's approach in extending outdoor smoking regulations, the City is inviting local Boards to endorse the Parks and Facility By-law 2004-276, as amended. On February 22, 2012, City Council approved a disposition recommending to Local Boards to bring property under its management in compliance with these amended by-laws. On March 28, 2012 the Board Chair and the OPL CEO received a letter (attached) from the Medical Officer of Health and the City Clerk and Solicitor inviting the OPL Board to consider the Council disposition.

Financial Implications

All signage and signage installation costs will be borne by Ottawa Public Health. There will be no financial implications for the Ottawa Public Library.

Next Steps

Pending Board approval, OPL will work with Ottawa Public Health to launch an awareness campaign that will include staff and volunteer training. Also, OPL will arrange for the City to replace existing signage with new signs that support the amended by-law



28 March 2012

Councillor Jan Harder
Chair, Ottawa Public Library Board
110 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, ON K1P 1J1

Danielle McDonald
Chief Executive Officer
120 Metcalfe Street
Ottawa, ON K1P 5M2

Re: City of Ottawa's New Smoke-Free Regulations

Dear Councillor Harder and Ms. McDonald,

We are writing to inform you that on March 28, 2012 City Council passed by-laws to provide for more smoke-free spaces. These amended by-laws (collectively referred to as the “smoke-free regulations”) will take effect **April 2, 2012**. Further, Council on February 22, 2012 approved a disposition that Council recommend to Local Boards to bring property under its management in compliance with these amended by-laws. These smoke-free regulations are part of a strategy that is designed to protect children and non-smokers from second-hand smoke, while reducing smoking rates.

The repeal of a provision of the Parks and Facility By-law 2004-276, as amended, is of particular relevance to Local Boards. This by-law provision previously prohibited smoking within nine (9) metres of an entrance or exit of a building that is owned or leased by the City, and has now been replaced with a provision **that prohibits smoking anywhere on an outdoor area of municipal property**. Under these new smoke-free regulations, municipal property includes parks, playgrounds, beaches, sports fields, and outdoor areas around City facilities but excludes outdoor property managed by local boards, as defined in the *Municipal Act, 2001*.

We invite your Local Board to consider the above mentioned Council disposition and formally endorse that the Parks and Facility By-law 2004-276, as amended, be extended to prohibit smoking on all outdoor property managed by your Local Board. Should you like further discussion or support on next steps, Ottawa Public Health would be pleased to facilitate a meeting with relevant stakeholders.

Should you have additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "I. Levy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Dr. Isra Levy
Medical Officer of Health

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Rick O'Connor". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

M. Rick O'Connor, CMO
City Clerk and Solicitor