



Centre Hastings Park Tobacco-Free Policy



Rationale

The Centre Hastings Park Committee (Park Committee) recognizes that exposure of non-smokers to environmental tobacco smoke 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. Accordingly, the following policy has been developed by the Park Committee to protect the health of all concerned. The move to go **tobacco-free, including no smoking, snuffing, dipping, or chewing tobacco**, upholds the Park Committee's mission to create a healthy family and community friendly environment.

The Park Committee believes that such an environment and image will further promote Centre Hastings Park as the finest family recreational facility in the province.

Who is affected by the Policy?

This policy applies to all park staff, visitors, volunteers, performers, and individuals and/or organizations that rent any of the facilities in Centre Hastings Park.

Timing

This policy is effective from September 1st, 2010.

Designated Tobacco-Free Area (Please refer to our tobacco-free park layout)

The Park Committee requires Centre Hastings Park to be tobacco-free, including the following:

- Arts Centre Hastings (including the outdoor stage, and field)
- Tourist Centre (including the outdoor porch)
- Snack bar
- washroom and change room facilities
- indoor and outdoor spectator viewing areas
- playing areas
- eating areas
- Skatepark and Bunny Park
- Rental Hut facility

- Splash Pad (including fenced in area surrounding the pad)
- near entries and exits of buildings, facilities, and the ground (See diagram)

Behavioral Expectations

The Park Committee recognizes that role modeling can have a significant impact upon the youth in the park. Hence, all staff and volunteers shall abide by the Tobacco free zone

Non-Compliance Strategy

The following five-step non-compliance strategy will be followed if anyone breaches the Park Committee's tobacco-free policy.

1. Assume that the person is unaware of the tobacco-free policy.
2. A staff member or representative will approach the person breaching the policy and politely ask them to refrain from smoking and remind them about the tobacco-free policy.
3. If the offence continues, then the most senior staff member or most senior representative will verbally warn them again and hand over a formally written letter. The offending patron must also be made aware that if they don't stop using tobacco then they will be required to leave the Park.
4. If the individual will not leave the park and is causing a disturbance as a last resort the police will be contacted
5. Under no circumstances should the Park Committee's tobacco-free policy be breached. A no trespassing noticed may be issued for all Municipal property.

The letter will outline

the Park Committee's policy on tobacco use and state that if the patron continues to breach the policy then he/she will be asked to leave. This letter will be pre-written and kept in the snack bar so that copies are readily available.

Sale of Tobacco Products

Centre Hastings Park will refrain from selling tobacco products.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed by the Park Committee at their June 2011 meeting after the policy's introduction and then on an annual basis thereafter. This will ensure that the policy remains current and practical.