

Region of Peel Smoke-Free Policy in Multi-Unit Housing

Semi-Annual Housing Services Providers Meeting

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Presentation Outline

- Why Implement a Smoke-Free Policy?
 - Health Effects
 - Fiscal Concerns
 - Legal and Social Context
 - Legislation
- Peel Living's Smoke-Free Policy
 - Partnership
 - Overview
 - Legal Questions
- Peel Region's Approach
 - Tenant Survey
 - Phased Implementation
- Support from Region of Peel



Why Implement a Smoke-Free Policy?



Health Effects of Second-Hand Smoke

Second-hand smoke (SHS) exposure is linked to variety of diseases and premature death

Close to 1 third of Ontarians living in MUH are regularly exposed to SHS from neighbouring units



Cannabis smoke may increase risk of respiratory problems and chronic bronchitis.

Second-hand cannabis smoke contains many of the same cancer-causing chemicals as tobacco smoke.

Financial Concerns



Maintaining a smoker's unit costs 50 to 100 percent more than a non-smoker's unit



Smoking poses a fire risk and can result in increased insurance premiums

Legal & Social Context



Smoke-Free Ontario Act does not include private units

Regina Housing Authority to compensate tenants for SHS exposure



There are over **320** properties in Ontario that are smoke-free or transitioning across all sectors

Peel Living's

Smoke-Free Policy



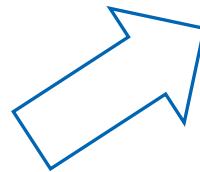
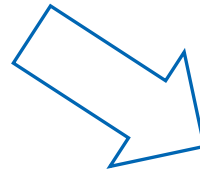
Partnership: Peel Living & Public Health

Peel Living Concerns:

1. Tenant complaints of Second Hand Smoke (SHS) exposure
2. Fire hazard
3. Consideration of health effects of cannabis smoke
4. Protecting vulnerable individuals from SHS



Public Health Concerns:
SHS exposure represents a health risk for over 16,000 multi-unit housing (MUH) tenants




Goal:

To create smoke-free living spaces in MUH properties to protect tenants, visitors, and staff from SHS exposure



Overview of the Smoke-Free Policy



What	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Smoke-free policy
How	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New leases include a no - smoking clause• Voluntary participation from Grandfathered tenants
Who & Where	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Residents of MUH operated by Peel Living or owned by the Region of Peel

Is that Legal?



People who smoke do not have a legally protected right to smoke

Tenants have a right to a safe and healthy living environment

Grandfathered tenants must be exempted from smoking restrictions

Cannabis is legal federally but restricted in PL units by the policy

Peel Region's Approach



Tenant Survey

- One survey was mailed to each Peel Living household
- One person/household was randomly selected to complete the survey
- Overall, tenants were very supportive of an indoor smoking ban within their buildings
 - 79% of residents agree that smoking should be banned indoors
 - 77% of residents reported that they are bothered by second-hand smoke in their home



Phased Implementation

Phase 1



Smoke-free clause in all
new lease agreements

Phase 2

Voluntary participation
from Grandfather
tenants

Support from Region of Peel



Support from Region of Peel

If you are thinking of going smoke-free, we can support you by providing...

Consultation regarding policy development

Literature, legislation and evidence review

Cessation resources and referral

Assistance developing communications plans and tactics

Support and guidance throughout planning and implementation



Thank you

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Appendix: Resources

- Smoke-Free Housing Ontario
 - <https://smokefreehousingon.ca/>
 - Resources include: lease template, how to guides, answers to common questions, legislation information, policy examples
- Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association
 - <http://onpha.on.ca/>
 - “Tenants and Community” resource library on Smoke-Free Buildings
 - Other resources available, including a Cannabis Toolkit
 - Membership required

