

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** All user groups of municipal community recreational facilities  
**From:** Tobacco Enforcement Team  
**Date:** January 15, 2025  
**Subject:** Smoke-Free Ontario Act enforcement at local arenas

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Coaches, athletes, and team supporters,

We want to remind you about the Smoke-Free Ontario Act and your role in protecting all Ontarians from secondhand smoke and vapour.

Since 2018, [it has been illegal to smoke or vape on or within 20m of a community recreation facility](#); this includes the indoor areas AND outdoor areas of all arenas in the Province. Plainly, there is to be no smoking or vaping on arena property.

### **Failure to comply with these rules can result in a \$305.00 fine.**

It's worth noting that:

- Most people DON'T smoke; only 9.9% of Ontarians smoke
- Nearly half of all people that smoke, want to quit smoking; smoke-free spaces help people with their quit attempts
- There is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke
- Secondhand vapour contains heavy metals and ultrafine particles that are dangerous when inhaled

Most notably, "when youth and young adults see others smoking, it can influence them to start smoking and gives the perception that it is acceptable." ([Health Canada](#))

#### **Resources for parents and guardians:**

- [Talking with your teen about vaping: A tip sheet for parents](#)
- [Don't treat your health like an experiment](#), talk about vaping with your athlete
- [What's in a vape](#), and [how to have a conversation with your teens about it](#)

#### **Resources to quit smoking or vaping:**

- [Smokers' Helpline](#) provides both cessation counselors and trial nicotine replacement therapy, and [STOP on the Net](#) is an online program to help you quit smoking that also comes with free nicotine replacement therapy.

Thank you for your help in protecting the health of our community – especially those that are going to an arena to participate in a sport or an event that they love.

Sincerely,

Tobacco Enforcement Team  
[environmentalhealth@peterboroughpublichealth.ca](mailto:environmentalhealth@peterboroughpublichealth.ca)

cc: CAO's of each Township in the County of Peterborough  
Municipal recreation managers and supervisors in the City and County of Peterborough