

TOBACCO AND VAPOUR PRODUCTS POLICY

(see Tobacco Control Act, 2007)

PREAMBLE

In accordance with Tobacco Control Act, in effect September 2, 2007, the School/Board is responsible for enforcing the prohibition of smoking or any other tobacco use on any school property. This policy also applies to the use of e-cigarettes, electronic smoking products and cartridges of nicotine and/or flavoured solutions, and related products.

Medical evidence clearly shows that smoking is a significant health risk to those who smoke. There is equally clear evidence that those individuals, who do not smoke, when exposed to secondhand smoke, are also at a significantly increased risk from exposure to that smoke. The Board believes in the promotion of good health and is committed to its fundamental responsibility of enforcing a smoke-free environment, as required under the legislation and this policy.

POLICY

All facilities and grounds will be designated as smoke free, with smoking prohibited at any time for all employees, students and visitors. In exercising due diligence, the school administrators will inform the public of this smoke free policy and provide appropriate signage, information campaigns, and communicating policy to existing and new employees. School property is defined as all school buildings, vehicles, and properties owned by the Board.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Definition: for the purpose of this policy, smoking will include tobacco products as well as e-cigarettes, electronic smoking products and cartridges of nicotine solutions.

1. Organizations and persons using, renting or leasing Maria Montessori School Academy property shall not be permitted to smoke on that property. Adherence to this policy and the Tobacco Control Act will be a condition of use, rental, or lease of the facility. It is the responsibility of the contract holder to inform any prescribed groups of the regulations of this policy.
2. Smoking will not be permitted in private vehicles on school property, in school owned vehicles and equipment, and in any vehicle used to transport students.
3. All employees are expected to comply with the smoking restrictions described in this policy and to assist with the enforcement of these restrictions. In accordance with the legislative requirements, the administration of the school must demonstrate that reasonable care and diligence have been taken to prevent a contravention of the smoking ban.
4. Wherever possible, no smoking signs shall be prominently displayed in the building.
5. The only exemption permitted under this policy is the ceremonial use of tobacco if approved by the Board and it is performed in relation to a traditional aboriginal cultural activity.