

BOARD OF HEALTH

No. 63 -2015

MOTION/RESOLUTION

Moved by *Carol Baron*

Seconded by *John Albano*

WHEREAS, recent regulatory amendments to the Smoke-Free Ontario Act have been introduced to reduce children's exposure to tobacco use and to protect the public from second-hand smoke; and

WHEREAS, these regulatory amendments make smoking within 20 metres of playgrounds illegal; and

WHEREAS, a number of beaches in our catchment area will be partially smoke-free because of the amendments; and

WHEREAS, a number of beaches on our catchment area will not be considered smoke-free or partially smoke-free because they do not contain playground equipment; and

WHEREAS, smoke-free beaches can prevent litter and pollution caused by discarded cigarette butts, offer protection from exposure to second-hand smoke, and may help to de-normalize smoking which may prevent children and youth from starting to smokeⁱⁱ; and

WHEREAS, smoke-free beaches by-laws can level the playing field between and within municipalities and provide an equal level of protection from second-hand smoke to all children in our catchment area; and

WHEREAS, a number of municipalities in Ontario have already enacted local by-laws that provide this protection to residents, including Thunder Bay, Hamilton, Kingston, Ottawa, Peterborough, and Toronto;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Health for the Northwestern Health Unit endorses the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health that municipalities in the Northwestern Health Unit catchment area each enact a local by-law to make all municipally owned beaches smoke-free.

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Health send a copy of this resolution to all municipalities and to the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association.

References

¹ Smoke Free Ontario Act Regulation Amendments

¹ Smoke-Free Beaches in Ontario: Progress and Implications for Practice, November 2011

May 22/15

Julie Roy chair

	Yea	Nay	Abstained	Disclosure of Interest
J. Albanese				
C. Baron				
D. Brown				
Y. Kirlew				
J. Roy				
J. Ruete				
P. Ryan				
T. Sachowski				
S. Smith				
B. Thompson				