

No. 88 -2015

MOTION/RESOLUTION

Moved by ..... 

Seconded by .....

WHEREAS tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death and disability in Canada, accounting for the deaths of approximately 13,000 people in Ontario alone each year;<sup>1</sup> and

WHEREAS second-hand smoke kills 1,000 Canadians annually;<sup>2,3</sup> and

WHEREAS approximately one-third of Ontarians living in multi-unit housing (MUH) report regular exposure to second-hand smoke that originates in neighbouring units, and 80% would choose a smoke-free building if the choice existed;<sup>4</sup> and

WHEREAS Ontarians spend most of their time at home, and it is in this environment where exposure continues to be reported; and

WHEREAS indoor air studies show that, depending on the age and construction of a building, up to 65% of the air in a private residence can come from elsewhere in the building<sup>5</sup> and no one should be unwillingly exposed or forced to move due to unwanted second-hand smoke exposure; and

WHEREAS second-hand smoke in multi-unit housing can lead to third-hand tobacco exposure as semi-volatile and volatile organic chemicals like nicotine and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (carcinogens, also known as PAHs) are oily or waxy and more likely to stick to surfaces than be removed by ventilation; and

WHEREAS 5.6% of residents age 12 and up in the Northwestern Health Unit catchment area are exposed to second-hand smoke in their home;<sup>6</sup> and

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.mhp.gov.on.ca/en/smoke-free/default.asp> Accessed August 17 2010

<sup>2</sup> Health Canada, 2004. "Cigarette Smoke: It's Toxic." Second-hand Smoke: FAQs & Facts. 2004. [www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hlvs/tobac-tabac/second/fact-fait/tox/index\\_e.html](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hlvs/tobac-tabac/second/fact-fait/tox/index_e.html) (Accessed Jan. 2006)

<sup>3</sup> Makomaski-Illing EM and Kaiserman MJ, 1999. Mortality attributable to tobacco use in Canada and its regions- 1998. *Canadian Journal of Public Health* 1999; 95(1):38-44. [www.cpha.ca/shared/cjph/archives/abstr04.htm#38-44](http://www.cpha.ca/shared/cjph/archives/abstr04.htm#38-44) (Accessed Dec. 2005)

<sup>4</sup> Smoke-Free Housing Ontario. 80% of People Living in Apartments, Condos and Co-ops Want to Live Smoke Free. Press release 8 December 2011. <http://www.newswire.ca/en/story/892061/80-of-people-living-in-apartments-condos-and-coops-want-to-live-smoke-free>.

<sup>5</sup> "Second-hand smoke in Multi-Unit Dwellings." Non-Smokers' Rights Association (2011). Available from <http://www.nsra-adnf.ca/cms/page1433.cfm>.

<sup>6</sup> Canadian Community Health Survey, 2011/2012 <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/health-sante/82-228/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Tab=1&Geo1=HR&Code1=3549&Geo2=PR&Code2=35&Data=Rate&SearchText=Northwestern%20Health%20Unit&SearchType=Contains&SearchPR=01&B1=All&Custom=&B2=All&B3=All>

WHEREAS 36.1% of residents who live in multi-unit housing in the Northwest Tobacco Control Area Network report tobacco smoke entering their home in the past 6 months.<sup>7</sup>

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for the Northwestern Health take the following actions to reduce exposure to second-hand smoke in multi-unit dwellings:

1. Encourage all landlords and property owners of multi-unit housing to voluntarily adopt no-smoking policies in their rental units or properties.
2. Encourage public/social housing providers to voluntarily adopt no-smoking policies in their units and/or properties.
3. Encourage the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to develop government policy and programs to facilitate the provision of smoke-free housing; including:
  - a. Ensuring all future private sector rental properties and buildings developed in Ontario should be smoke-free from the onset;
  - b. Ensuring all future public/social housing developments in Ontario should be smoke-free from the onset.

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Smoke-Free Ontario Housing Coalition, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Provincial Parliament (MPP), the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, all Ontario Boards of Health, the Kenora District Services Board, the Rainy River District Social Services and Administration Board, and Northwestern Health Unit obligated municipalities for their information and support.

<sup>7</sup> Centre for Addiction and Mental Health Monitor, 2011/2012 [http://otru.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/update\\_aug2014\\_v2.pdf](http://otru.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/update_aug2014_v2.pdf)

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

Date: October 23, 2015

Chair: Julie Roy