

Tobacco Facts for Schools

Halton Region's tobacco programming aims to:

- **Prevent** young people from smoking
- **Protect** people from second-hand smoke
- **Motivate** tobacco users to quit and
- **Change** the perception that the tobacco industry is "normal" or legitimate.

Prevention and Protection: The Law

The *Smoke-Free Ontario Act* prohibits smoking in enclosed workplaces and enclosed public places. This means smoking is prohibited in public schools and private schools. The Act also prohibits smoking outside on public and private school property. Schools are required to post **NO SMOKING** signs. Tobacco Enforcement Officers and /or Public Health Inspectors from the Halton Region Health Department carry out inspections and investigate complaints in schools in order to enforce the Act.

Responsibilities of School Administration:

- Ensure that employees, students and visitors are aware of the smoking prohibitions.
- Remove ashtrays and any object that serves as one.
- Ensure that employees, students and members of the public do not smoke on school property.
- Ensure a person who does not comply, does not remain on the property.
- Post NO SMOKING signs at all entrances, exits, washrooms, and other appropriate locations in order to ensure that everyone knows that smoking is prohibited. For information on acquiring required signage, please contact Halton Region at 311.

Penalties:

- For individuals 16 years and over, there is a minimum fine of \$305 for smoking on school property. Individuals younger than 16 must attend court with a parent or guardian. Selling, supplying or sharing tobacco products with anyone under 19 can result in a minimum fine of \$365.
- There is no maximum corporate fine under the Smoke Free Ontario Act for smoking on school property. An Individual could be subject to a maximum fine of \$5,000.

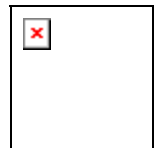
Cessation help

Young people underestimate the power of nicotine addiction. It's a fact that 90 per cent of the youth still smoking by age 19 will become long term smokers. Halton Region offers resources to help people quit smoking such as The Stop Smoking Clinic, or check out www.quit4life.com www.thetruth.com, www.smokingzine.org www.mylastdip.com

De-normalizing the industry

Tobacco-Free Sport & Recreation (TFSR)

Tobacco Free Sports and Recreation means that everyone taking part in a sport or recreational activity refrains from using all forms of tobacco – participants, spectators, coaches and leaders do not smoke, snuff, dip, or chew tobacco. It is about creating a culture where tobacco industry products are not a normal part of healthy living. Create a Tobacco-Free Sport and Recreation policy for your school and/or team(s). www.playlivebetobaccofree.ca



Smoke Free Movies

The research is clear, the more youth see smoking in movies the more likely they are to start. Physicians for Smoke-Free Canada estimate that about 134,000 Canadian high school aged youth were recruited to smoke by exposure to on-screen smoking. American movies, Canadian film subsidies and provincial rating practices will kill 43,000 teens alive today. For more information and to learn about what can be done to make a change visit www.smokefreemovies.ca.

ACTION Week (Advocates Challenging the Tobacco Industry in Ontario Now)

Take part in 2011 ACTION week November 20-26, 2011. Explore the ACTION week guide (coming soon) to learn more about the iTHINK campaign and to take action <http://www.actionweek.ca>

Visit www.halton.ca or call 311 to learn more about Halton Region's tobacco programming.