

To: All Members
Board of Health

From: Dr. Rosana Pellizzari, Medical Officer of Health

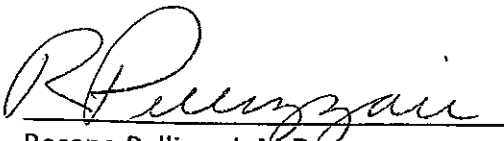
Subject: Staff Report - Phase II City of Peterborough Smoke-free Bylaw Development

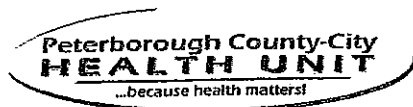
Date: December 9, 2009

Recommendation:

That the Board of Health request the Peterborough City Council to amend Bylaw #07-126 to expand the smoking prohibitions to all city parks in a staged approach starting with prohibitions in park spaces with the greatest public support.

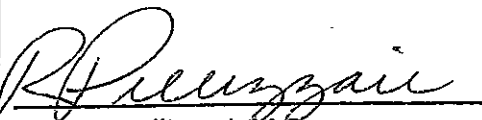
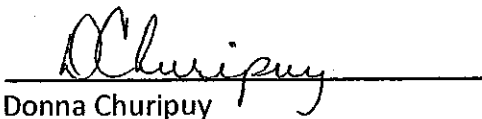
Please refer to the attached.


Rosana Pellizzari, M.D.



Staff Report

Phase II City of Peterborough Smoke-free Bylaw Development

Date:	December 9, 2009
To:	Board of Health
From:	Dr. Rosana Pellizzari, Medical Officer of Health
 Rosana Pellizzari, M.D.  Donna Churipuy	

Purpose

This report provides the Board of Health with an update on the amendment to the City of Peterborough Bylaw #07-126 that extended the smoking prohibitions to the spectator audience areas of Del Crary Park, East City Bowl and Riverside Park and proposes that the Board support expansion of the by-law to include all city parks.

Decision History

Following a presentation about tobacco-free playgrounds by the Youth Action Alliance (YAA) during the December 3, 2008 Board of Health meeting a motion was adopted to support the recommendations of the YAA. Letters were sent to both the City of Peterborough and the County of Peterborough requesting that by-laws be developed that prohibit the use of tobacco products within 15 meters of public playgrounds or areas where children play. [Note: Since that date it has been determined that municipalities do not have the jurisdiction to create "tobacco-free" bylaws only "smoke-free" bylaws]

Financial Implications and Impact

There are no financial implications for the Board of Health. Tobacco Use Prevention program staff will continue to promote and support the development of local smoke-free bylaws as part of the health unit's regular activities.

Recommendations

That the Peterborough County-City Board of Health request the Peterborough City Council to amend Bylaw #07-126 to expand the smoking prohibitions to all city parks in a staged approach starting with prohibitions in park spaces with the greatest public support.

Background

Following receipt of the Board of Health's letter in January 2009, city staff consulted with the Health Unit and developed a staff report. This report recommended that smoke-free parks be introduced in two phases. The first phase would take place in 2009 and would target three large parks: Del Crary Park, East City Bowl and Riverside Park and it would prohibit smoking in these three locations within defined spectator areas. Council passed this recommendation to amend the bylaw on March 23, 2009. The second phase would involve the further investigation and consideration of prohibitions in all City parks.

The City assigned the responsibility of direct bylaw education to two Recreation divisional staff hired for the summer months. Their job title was Special Events Monitor and they were responsible for bylaw education including the smoking bylaw as it applied to park areas. These staff documented their bylaw work and the final report is appended.

Community-wide education was supported through newspaper advertisements, earned media, promotion by the Youth Action Alliance and both health unit and city websites.

During deputations to City Council, the Health Unit committed to support the investigative needs of Phase II. A public opinion poll was developed and data was collected from June to September. The opinion poll report is also appended. This report has been shared with city staff.

Comments

City staff and health unit staff have worked together to implement the 2009 bylaw amendments and to collect information that can guide future decision-making. Both organizations have contributed staff time and resources to ensure the public was informed and consulted.

Future municipal bylaw amendments will be reinforced by the Health Unit's Tobacco-Free Sports and Recreation program and partnerships. This program encourages athletes, coaches, and spectators to pledge to be tobacco free. It also challenges and supports local sport organizations, especially those serving children and youth, to develop tobacco-free policies.

Communities small and large across Ontario continue to respond to the health interests of children and the opinions of citizens by implementing smoke-free outdoor bylaws.

Conclusion

There is a groundswell of support that has created an ideal environment for further bylaw development. The local experience with bylaw implementation in Phase I coupled with the findings of the opinion poll strongly support the continued expansion of smoke-free areas within our region's park spaces.

Strategic Direction

These recommendations support the following strategic directions:

- Continue to Meet Our Mandate
- Build on Our Leadership Role
- Leverage Information and Technology

Appendices

Appendix A - Summary and Analysis of Special Events Monitor Documentation Specific to Bylaw # 07-126

Appendix B - Smoke-Free Outdoor Opinion Poll Final Report

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