



## INTRODUCTION

### PURPOSE

The Municipality East Hants has created the “Smoke Free Open Space Policy” to promote healthy lifestyles and further protect Municipality East Hants residents, especially young children from exposure to second hand smoke by creating awareness and promoting smoke free open recreational spaces with emphasis on sidewalks, playgrounds, sports fields, trail heads, open spaces, tourism properties and waterfronts. This policy is intended to encourage healthy active living for all residents.

### OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Smoke Free Open Space policy are:

- To establish an awareness program that will identify the adverse health effects of second hand smoke, particularly on the young and the elderly.
- To respect the rights of all residents to be involved in healthy active living opportunities.
- To limit the exposure to second hand smoke while on municipally owned and or operated parks, playgrounds, sidewalks, trail heads, sport fields, open spaces , tourism properties or waterfronts through signage, promotion and education. *\*Signage will not be installed on sidewalks at this time.*
- To encourage all public recreational open spaces to be smoke free as part of a comprehensive approach to healthy living.

### SCOPE

This policy covers only municipally owned and/or maintained outdoor properties, including parks, sidewalks, playgrounds, trail heads, sport fields, open spaces, tourism properties or waterfronts.

#### DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Council Policy	A resolution of the council that is required, pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, to be recorded in the by-law records of a municipality, except where the context otherwise requires.
Open space	Open space refers to open space owned or leased by the municipality for the purposes of encouraging or facilitating recreation and healthy active living. Including parks, sidewalks, playground and trails, and waterfronts.



Term	Definition
Smoking distance	A minimum of 10 meter distance from participants, spectators, visitors and patrons utilizing open spaces. The exception to this will be when private land is in proximity to public open space making the 10 metres guideline impractical
Smoke	Means the gases, particles or vapors released into the air as a result of combustion, electrical ignition or vaporization for the purpose of combustion, electrical ignition or vaporization or inhalation. The term smoke includes but is not limited to tobacco/ marijuana smoke and electronic cigarette vapors.
Smoking	Possessing a lit pipe/cigar or cigarette, lighted hookah pipe, an operative electronic cigarette blunt, smokeless tobacco, and oral tobacco including spit, chew, snuff
Trailhead	Trailhead is defined as the entrance or exit to a hiking trail.
Waterfront	A municipally owned wharf or dock designed to provide access or egress to a body of water
Playground	Any open space that hosts commercial playground equipment of playground equipment identified as natural playground
Sidewalk	Sidewalks are municipally maintained pedestrian paved and maintained routes in subdivisions and along municipal or Provincial roads

## POLICY

It is the policy of the Municipality of East Hants to promote healthy lifestyles and further protect MEH residents, especially young children from exposure to second hand smoke by providing awareness and education that promotes smoke free open spaces with an emphasis on sidewalks, playgrounds, sporting fields, trail heads, tourism properties and waterfronts.

## POLICY STATEMENTS

1. MEH will support initiatives that recognize the Smoke Free Open Space policy for the protection of the residents.
2. All MEH open spaces will be promoted as smoke free areas and require a 10 meter smoking distance from participants, spectators, visitors and patrons utilizing these spaces
3. Signage will be posted at designated locations indicating Smoke Free Open Space policy - designated smoke free. *Signage will not be installed on sidewalks at this time.*



EAST HANTS

# COUNCIL POLICY Smoke Free Open Space Policy

## GOVERNANCE

### ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Title/Role	Responsibilities
Policy Owner	The responsibilities for the administration of this policy resides with the Department of Recreation and Culture specifically the Director of Recreation and Culture.

## VERSION LOG

Version Number	Amendment Description	Amendment/Policy Owner	Approved By	Approval Date
1.0	Protection from second hand smoke (draft)	David Brown	Draft to Committee	Draft June 2013
1.1	Protection from second hand smoke (draft)	David Brown	2 <sup>nd</sup> draft to committee	July 2013
2.0	Protection from second hand smoke (draft)	Rebecca Kolstee	3 <sup>rd</sup> draft	September 2013