



REPORT TO

## GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

### UPDATE TO SMOKE FREE SPACE POLICY (B.B.04)

*Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.*

*3 John 1:2*

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
February 7, 2019	February 27, 2019	

Casey (Catherine) Caldwell, Legal Counsel, Employee Relations

#### RECOMMENDATION REPORT

**Vision:**

*At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.*

**Mission:**

*The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community rooted in the love of Christ. We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge and to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.*



Rory McGuckin  
Director of Education

D. Koenig  
Associate Director  
of Academic Affairs

L. Noronha  
Associate Director of Facilities,  
Business and Community  
Development, and  
Chief Financial Officer

## **A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report recommends updates to the current Smoke Free Space Policy B.B.04. Revisions to this policy are necessary to comply with recent amendments to legislation following the legalization of recreational cannabis in Ontario. Appendix A includes a draft of the updated policy, which this report recommends renaming the Smoke & Vapour Free Space Policy. The proposed draft in Appendix A is subject to further consultation with employee groups at the TCDSB.

## **B. PURPOSE**

This Recommendation Report is on the Order Paper of the Governance and Policy Committee as it recommends a policy revision.

## **C. BACKGROUND**

1. The policy was originally approved on January 2, 1987 and was amended in 1991 and most recently in 1995.
2. The *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017* and the *Ontario Cannabis Control Act, 2017* came into force on October, 17 2018.
3. As a result of the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017*, no person shall do any of the following in a school, as defined by the *Education Act*, or in any public area within 20 metres of a school, as defined:
  - (1) smoke or hold lighted tobacco;
  - (2) smoke or hold lighted cannabis;
  - (3) use an electronic cigarette;
  - (4) consume a prescribed product or substance, in a prescribed manner as set out in the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017*.

4. Employers are also required to ensure that employees and the public are aware that smoking and the use of electronic cigarettes is prohibited in an enclosed workplace, place or area by posting prescribed signs.
5. Further, pursuant to the *Ontario Cannabis Control Act, 2017*, persons under the age of 19 are prohibited from buying, possessing, cultivating, consuming or distributing cannabis.

#### **D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS**

1. Upon review of other school boards' policies regarding smoke, vapour, cannabis and tobacco free environments, the other boards' have in-depth policies in compliance with the legislation.
2. The requirement of signage under the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017* will pose both a financial and operational cost as new signs will have to be placed at all entrances and exits of TCDSB buildings.
3. Training on this policy may also be required.
4. This policy aligns with the "Strengthening Public Confidence" and "Fostering Student Achievement and Well-Being" components of the MYSP. It also supports a healthy workplace for all students, staff and visitors.
5. The Facilities and Operations and Maintenance departments will ensure appropriate signage is posted in accordance with the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017*.

#### **E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

1. Recommendations in this report will be monitored by policy development staff as well as through the Facilities and Operations and Maintenance Department.
2. Further reports will be brought to the Board as necessary.

**F. IMPLEMENTATION, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN**

1. Implementation will occur through the Facilities and Operations and Maintenance departments.
2. Stakeholder engagement will include ensuring individuals responsible for TCDSB buildings enforce the policy.

**G. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That Trustees approve the updated Smoke & Vapour Free Space policy B.B.04, attached hereto as Appendix A, for further consultation with relevant TCDSB employee groups.