

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

BY-LAW NO. 2022-35

A BY-LAW TO REGULATE WATER PIPE SMOKING IN THE
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

WHEREAS, water pipe smoking has been associated with various disease and poor health outcomes, including lung cancer, negative pregnancy outcomes, poor oral health, dental disease, respiratory illness and impaired lung function linked to tobacco water pipe formulations, and carbon monoxide exposure and reduced lung capacity linked to non-tobacco formulations;

WHEREAS, water pipe smoking, in general, negatively affects indoor air quality for indicators including carbon monoxide and particulate matter, which are closely related to potential impacts on human health;

WHEREAS, subsection 11(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, provides that upper tier municipalities have the authority to pass by-laws respecting the health, safety and well-being of persons;

WHEREAS, subsection 115(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25 provides that a municipality may prohibit or regulate the smoking of tobacco in public places and workplaces; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable for the health, safety and well-being of the inhabitants of Niagara Region to prohibit the use of water pipes in enclosed public places, enclosed workplaces, and other specified areas within Niagara Region to protect individuals from conditions hazardous to human health.

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Regional Corporation enacts as follows:

DEFINITIONS

1. In this By-law:

“Employee” means a person who performs any work for, or supplies any service to, an employer, or a person who receives any instruction or training in the activity, business, work, trade, occupation or profession of an employer.

“Employer” includes an owner, operator, proprietor, manager, superintendent, overseer, receiver or trustee of an activity, business, work, trade, occupation, profession, project

or undertaking who has control or direction of, or is directly or indirectly responsible for, the employment of a person in it.

“Enclosed Public Place” means the inside of any place, building or structure, or vehicle or conveyance or a part of any of them:

- (a) that is covered by a roof; and
- (b) to which the public is ordinarily invited or permitted access, either expressly or by implication, whether or not a fee is charged for entry.

“Enclosed Workplace” means the inside of any place, building or structure or vehicle or conveyance or a part of any of them:

- (a) that is covered by a roof; and
- (b) that employees work in or frequent during the course of their employment whether or not they are acting in the course of their employment at the time.

“Highway” means a highway as defined in the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25.

“Medical Officer of Health” means the Medical Officer of Health for The Regional Municipality of Niagara, duly appointed under the Health Protection and Promotion Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. H.7, as amended.

“Officer” means a Provincial Offences Officer acting under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health;

“Order” has the meaning set forth in section 11 of this By-law.

“Person” means an individual or a corporation;

“Playground” means an area where the public is ordinarily invited or permitted access, either expressly or by implication, whether or not a fee is charged for entry, that is primarily used for the purposes of children’s recreation, and is equipped with children’s play equipment including but not limited to slides, swings, climbing apparatuses, splash pads, wading pools, or sand boxes.

“Proprietor” means the person, governing body or agency which controls, governs or directs activity carried on within an Enclosed Public Place, Enclosed Workplace, or other area specified by this By-law and includes the person who is actually in charge thereof;

“Patio” means an area where the public is ordinarily invited or permitted access, either expressly or by implication, whether or not a fee is charged for entry, or that is worked in or frequented by employees during the course of their employment, whether or not they are acting in the course of their employment at the time, and where food or drink is served or sold or offered for consumption, or that is part of or operated in conjunction with an area where food or drink is served or sold or offered.

“Property Owner” means a Person with a legal or beneficial ownership of a building or other structure that contains an Enclosed Public Place or an Enclosed Workplace operated either directly by the Property Owner or indirectly by a tenant, licensee or other Person operating in the building or structure with the permission of that Property Owner and includes:

- (a) the registered owner on title of the property;
- (b) the person, for the time being, managing or receiving the rent of the land or premises in connection with which the word is used, whether on the person’s own account or as agent or trustee of any other person, or who would receive the rent if the land and premises were let; and
- (c) the lessee or occupant of the property.

“Public Place” means:

- (a) any property owned, leased, or controlled by Niagara Region or any area municipality, including without limitation parks, playgrounds, sports or playing fields, recreational trails, beaches, arenas, recreational centers, community meeting areas, special events, farmers markets, bus shelters, splash pads, and pools;
- (b) any outdoor area within a nine-metre radius of an entrance to or exit from a building located at any property owned, leased or controlled by Niagara Region or any area municipality; and
- (c) any outdoor area that is within a nine-metre radius of an entrance to or exit from a public building or building generally accessible to the public, whether or not the building is leased, or controlled by Niagara Region or any area municipality, including places of employment, condominium buildings, apartment buildings and other similar residential buildings.

“Roof” means a physical barrier of any size, whether temporary or permanent, that covers an area or place or any part of an area or place, and that is capable of excluding rain or impeding airflow, or both.

“School” means the lands or premises included in the definition of a school under the Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2 or the building or the grounds surrounding the building of a private school as defined in the Education Act, where the private school is the sole occupant of the premises, or the grounds annexed to a private school as defined in the Education Act, where the private school is not the sole occupant of the premises.

“Spectator Area” means an area with tiered seating or benches.

“Smoke” or “Smoking” includes the use or carrying of any lighted or activated or heated Water pipe as well as the fumes or byproducts of heating or combustion associated with Water pipe use.

“Sporting Area” means an area where the public is ordinarily invited or permitted access, either expressly or by implication, whether or not a fee is charged for entry, used primarily for the purposes of sports including, but without being limited to soccer, football, basketball, tennis, baseball, softball, cricket, skating, beach volleyball, running, swimming, or skateboarding.

“Water pipe” means any activated, lighted or heated smoking equipment used to burn or heat tobacco or a non-tobacco substance or a combination thereof, with which the vapor or smoke may be passed through a water basin before inhalation.

PROHIBITIONS

2. No person shall Smoke a Water pipe in:
 - (a) an Enclosed Public Place;
 - (b) an Enclosed Workplace;
 - (c) a Patio;
 - (d) a Playground;
 - (e) a Public Place;
 - (f) a Sporting Area;
 - (g) a Spectator Area adjacent to a Sporting Area;
 - (h) a School; or

- (i) any area that is within 9 metres of any point on the perimeter of a Public Place, Playground, Sporting Area or Spectator Area adjacent to a Sporting Area.
3. The prohibitions in this By-law shall apply whether or not a notice is posted that Water pipe Smoking is prohibited.
4. No Person shall provide or supply a Water pipe for use in an area where Smoking a Water pipe is prohibited by this By-law.
5. No Proprietor, Employer, or Employee shall encourage, entice, cause or permit the Smoking of a Water pipe within an Enclosed Public Place, Enclosed Workplace, or Restaurant or Patio or Sporting Area or Spectator Area.
6. No Property Owner, shall cause or permit use of a building or other structure that contains an Enclosed Public Place or an Enclosed Workplace building in which that Property Owner has a legal or beneficial interest to be used.

EXEMPTIONS

7. This By-law does not apply to a Highway including a pedestrian sidewalk adjacent to a Highway, but does apply to public transportation vehicles and taxicabs on a Highway.
8. This By-law does not apply to the portion of a premises used primarily as a private dwelling.

ENFORCEMENT

9. Where any Person contravenes any provision of this By-law, an Officer may direct such Person to comply with this By-law. Every Person so directed shall comply with such direction without delay.
10. Where an Officer has reasonable grounds to believe that an offence has been committed by a Person, the Officer may require the name, address, and proof of identity of that Person, and the Person shall supply the required information.
11. In the event the Medical Officer of Health is satisfied that a contravention of this By-law has occurred, Niagara Region may make an order, as authorized by section 444(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001 S.O. 2001 c25 (as amended or replaced from time to time) requiring the person who contravened the By-law or who caused or permitted the contravention or the Property Owner of the land on which the contravention occurred to discontinue the contravening activity and the

Medical Officer of Health is by this By-law, delegated authority to issue such Orders.

INSPECTIONS

12. An Officer may enter and inspect all buildings, structures or parts thereof that are subject to this By-law at any reasonable time for the purposes of determining whether there is compliance with this By-law.
13. For the purposes of an inspection under this By-law, an Officer may:
 - (a) require the production for inspection of documents or things relevant to the inspection;
 - (b) inspect and remove documents or things relevant to the inspection for the purpose of making copies or extracts;
 - (c) require information from any person concerning a matter related to the inspection; and
 - (d) alone or in conjunction with a person possessing special or expert knowledge, make examinations or take tests, samples or photographs necessary for the purposes of the inspection.
14. In the event the Medical Officer of Health determines that it would be beneficial for the enforcement of the requirements of this By-law, Niagara Region shall have all be entitled to:
 - (a) seek a search warrant pursuant to section 439 of the Municipal Act, 2001 S.O. 2001 c. 25 (as amended or replaced from time to time); and
 - (b) apply to restrain any breach or continuing breach of the By-law pursuant to section 440 of the Municipal Act, 2001 S.O. 2001 c. 25 (as amended or replaced from time to time).

OBSTRUCTION

15. No Person shall hinder or obstruct, or attempt to hinder or obstruct, an Officer lawfully carrying out a power, duty or direction under this By-law.

OFFENCES

16. Every Person other than a corporation who contravenes any provision of this By-law, is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable, for every day or part thereof upon which such offence occurs or continues, to a fine of not more than \$10,000 for a first offence; and not more than \$25,000 for any subsequent conviction.
17. Every Person other than a corporation who fails to promptly comply with an Order issued pursuant to section 11 of this By-law, is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable, for every day or part thereof upon which such offence occurs or continues, to a fine of not more than \$10,000 for a first offence; and not more than \$25,000 for any subsequent conviction.
18. Every corporation which contravenes any provision of this By-law, is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable, for every day or part thereof upon which such offence occurs or continues, to a fine of not more than \$50,000 for a first offence and not more than \$100,000 for any subsequent conviction.
19. Every corporation which fails to promptly comply with an Order issued pursuant to section 11 of this By-law, is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable, for every day or part thereof upon which such offence occurs or continues, to a fine of not more than \$50,000 for a first offence and not more than \$100,000 for any subsequent conviction.
20. Without limiting any other section of this By-law, every Person who contravenes any provision of this By-law is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine in accordance with the Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.33.
21. Without limiting any other section of this By-law, every Person who fails to promptly comply with an Order issued pursuant to section 11 of this By-law is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine in accordance with the Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.33.
22. If any Person is in contravention of any provision of this By-law, and the contravention has not been corrected, the contravention of the provision shall be deemed to be a continuing offence for each day or part of a day that the contravention remains uncorrected.
23. For the purposes of this By-law, subsequent conviction means a conviction for an offence which occurs after the date of conviction for an earlier offence under this By-law.

24. Where any Person contravenes any provision of this By-law, such person shall be responsible for all costs incurred by the Region directly related to the contravention.

SEVERABILITY

25. If any section or sections of this By-law, or parts thereof are found by any court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or beyond the power of Regional Council to enact, such section or sections or parts thereof shall be deemed to be severable from this By-law and all remaining sections or parts of this By-law shall be deemed to be separate and independent therefrom and to be properly enacted and to be of full force and effect.

CONFLICT

26. In the event of a conflict between any provision of this By-law and any applicable Act or regulation, the provision that is the most restrictive prevails.

EFFECTIVE DATE

27. This By-law shall come into force and take effect on January 1, 2023, provided that the conditions in subsection 115(5) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25 have been satisfied.

SHORT TITLE

28. The short title of this By-law is the "Niagara Region Water Pipe Smoking By-law".

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

James Bradley, Regional Chair

Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk

Passed: May 19, 2022