



## Smoke-Free Outdoor Bylaw

Community and Protective Services Committee  
Ottawa City Council

February 15, 2012

Presented by Suzanne Friedlaender and Carmela Graziani

# Why Smoke-Free Outdoor Spaces?

- Create a level playing field for all businesses
- Enjoy widespread community support
- Address complaints from the public
- Help smokers to quit & stay smoke-free
- Prevent youth from starting to smoke
- Protect children & vulnerable individuals
- Protect hospitality workers

# Why Smoke-Free Outdoor Spaces?

- **No safe level of exposure to second-hand smoke, even outdoors**
- **Role modelling and social exposure contribute to an increase in youth smoking**
- Tobacco use is the leading cause of **preventable** death and disability in Ottawa<sup>1</sup>

# Why Smoke-Free Outdoor Spaces?

- Reduce morbidity and mortality rates (heart disease, lung disease, cancer, stroke)
- Reduce health care costs
- Reduce business costs (sick leave, decreased productivity, higher insurance rates)
- Create safer, healthier & cleaner spaces

# Smoke-Free Outdoor Spaces

- OCSH supports Ottawa Public Health's Strategy:
  - Smoke-free patios, parks, beaches, sports fields
  - Festivals & events on municipal property
  - Fruit & vegetable markets
  - 100% smoke-free at all times!

# Smoke-Free Outdoor Spaces

- OCSH supports:
  - Warning phase: as of April 2, 2012
  - Charging phase: as of July 2, 2012

# Smoke-Free Outdoor Spaces

- OCSH supports increased smoking cessation programs
- **High smoking rates among hospitality workers:**
  - 7.8% of young adults (20-34 year olds) in Ontario work in the hospitality industry<sup>1</sup>
  - Young adults have the highest smoking rate in Canada<sup>2</sup>
  - 22% of 20-24 year-olds are current smokers<sup>3</sup>
  - 21% of 25-34 year-olds are current smokers<sup>4</sup>

# Economics of Smoking

- **\$3,396**: Total *annual* cost to employers for each Canadian employee who smokes, due to higher absenteeism, decreased productivity and higher insurance premiums.<sup>1</sup>
- Smoking costs Ontarians **\$4.4 billion per year** in lost productivity and **\$1.6 billion** in health care costs for a total of **\$6 billion**.<sup>2</sup>
- Cost of hospitalizations for smoking-related illnesses in Ottawa: **\$40 million per year**.<sup>3</sup>

# Economic Impact of Smoke-Free Bylaws

“Economic studies in Ontario and internationally show that smoke-free policies do not adversely affect aggregate sales or employment in bars and restaurants; in some cases, these policies have had a positive impact.”<sup>1</sup>

# Still Need to Regulate Gaps

- Establish a 9 metre smoke-free policy for entranceways to buildings covered under Ottawa's smoke-free bylaws
- Nuisance bylaw → ban the smoking of waterpipes in restaurants and bars covered under Ottawa's smoke-free bylaws
- Ban smoking on hospital and college/ university campuses

# Still Need to Regulate Gaps

- Ban smoking in all hotels, motels, B&Bs
- Cooperate with other levels of government (e.g. NCC) to make their properties & events smoke-free (e.g. *Bluesfest*)
- Construction sites:
  - Bylaw officers already have the mandate and the protective gear needed to enter construction sites.
  - The bylaw officers designated to enforce the SFOA are responsible for answering complaints on construction sites once buildings have a roof and two sides.

# Still Need to Regulate Gaps

- Include the smoking ban on leased land upon renewal of the leases
- Provide an update on the implementation of the smoke-free outdoor bylaw and develop a plan to cover remaining workplaces and public places under the smoke-free bylaws by Q2 of 2013

# Still Need to Regulate Gaps

- Build mechanisms into the renewed smoke-free bylaw to regulate gaps so we don't have to wait another 10 years for increased health protection!
- The City of Ottawa has a duty to respond to the needs of the community, as expressed in the OPH Ipsos Reid survey and in the OCSH's online poll and postcard campaign.
- It's doable! The City of Ottawa can better meet the needs of the community by amending the recommendations of the Board of Health.

# Ottawa Needs to Catch Up

- Jurisdictions with smoke-free outdoor spaces:

## Cities:

- Vancouver, Victoria, Saskatoon, Toronto, Kingston, Thunder Bay, Waterloo, Kentville

## Provinces/Territories:

- Alberta, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador, Yukon Territory

## Other:

- Los Angeles, New York City, Maine, Washington, Hawaii, Australia, 2012 London Olympics

# Albert & O'Connor Streets, Ottawa

Butt litter: health, environmental & economic costs



*(Courtesy Penny Becklumb)*

