



Ottawa Council on
Smoking or Health

Conseil d'Ottawa sur le
tabagisme ou la santé

July 3, 2012

Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson and Ottawa City Council
City of Ottawa
110 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1J1

RE: Banning Waterpipe Smoking on Outdoor Municipal Property

Dear Mayor Jim Watson, Ottawa City Council, Ottawa Board of Health, Dr. Isra Levy and City of Ottawa Staff:

On behalf of the members and community volunteers of the Ottawa Council on Smoking or Health (OCSH), thank you for amending the *Parks and Facilities By-law* on June 27, 2012 to prohibit the smoking of waterpipes and non-tobacco products on outdoor municipal property including all city parks, beaches and facilities. The OCSH is especially pleased that Ottawa City Council amended the wording of the bylaw to include “*heated*” smoking equipment.

We also thank city staff and the Community and Protective Services (CPS) Committee for recommending the ban at its meeting on June 21, 2012, and for finding an innovative legal solution to this public health issue.

While the issue of water pipe smoking inside restaurants and bars in Ottawa must still be addressed, the OCSH was heartened to hear strong support at last week’s CPS Committee meeting for an eventual ban.

The OCSH congratulates the City of Ottawa for setting yet another standard in tobacco control in Ontario and for ensuring increased protection from second-hand smoke in public places and workplaces.

The OCSH will continue to support the City of Ottawa’s ongoing efforts in tobacco control.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Friedlaender
President
Ottawa Council on Smoking and Health