



Ottawa Council on
Smoking or Health

Conseil d'Ottawa sur le
tabagisme ou la santé

Prohibiting the Use of Water Pipes and Non-Tobacco Products in the City of Ottawa

Community and Protective Services Committee
Ottawa City Council

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Banning Water Pipes and Non-Tobacco Products

- The OCSH thanks and commends the City of Ottawa for taking action.
- The OCSH supports amending the ***Parks and Facilities By-law*** to prohibit the smoking of water pipes and non-tobacco products on outdoor municipal property including all city parks, beaches and facilities.

Why Ban Water Pipes and Non-Tobacco Products?

- However, the OCSH is concerned that banning water pipes in *outdoor spaces only* will **not**:
 - **Protect** all members of the public and all hospitality workers
 - **Reduce** youth smoking
 - **Create** a level playing field for the hospitality industry.

Why Ban Water Pipes and Non-Tobacco Products?

- The OCSH urges the City of Ottawa to:
 - Conduct air quality testing in water pipe establishments in Ottawa.
 - Seek changes to the federal ***Tobacco Act*** and the ***Smoke-Free Ontario Act*** to ban water pipe smoking **inside public places and workplaces**.

Why Ban Water Pipes and Non-Tobacco Products?

- No safe level of exposure to second-hand smoke indoors or outdoors
- More than a public nuisance → a public health and workplace health and safety issue, both indoors and outdoors
- A dangerous alternative to cigarettes → role modelling and social exposure contribute to an increase in youth smoking
- City of Ottawa has proof that many hookah establishments are selling nicotine, not just herbal products → increases risk of youth becoming addicted to tobacco products

Why Ban Water Pipes and Non-Tobacco Products?

- The City of Ottawa should ban the **smoking, heating and burning** of water pipes and other non-tobacco products **both indoors and outdoors** to:
 - Reduce the risk of cancer, heart and lung diseases; transmission of communicable diseases; carbon monoxide poisoning
 - Further reduce smoking rates among youth
 - Protect children, pregnant women and other vulnerable individuals
 - Create safer, healthier and cleaner spaces.

Banning Water Pipes and Non-Tobacco Products

***“Smoking a hookah is much
like breathing the smoke from
a smouldering coal fire.”***

We are counting on your protection!

Reference: Sivilotti, Riyad, Canadian Journal of Emergency Medicine,
2012;14(1):3-4. <http://www.cjem-online.ca/v14/n1/p3>