

WHAT DOES THE SMOKE-FREE ONTARIO ACT MEAN FOR YOU?

How it Affects Public Places

- The Smoke-Free Ontario Act prohibited smoking in all enclosed workplaces and enclosed public places as of May 31, 2006
- Designated smoking rooms (DSRs) were eliminated from all enclosed public places and workplaces in Ontario as of May 31, 2006
- These measures help protect employees and the public from the health effects of second-hand smoke

Enclosed Public Places

An enclosed public place means any enclosed area of a building or structure to which the public has access, (e.g. retail shops, indoor shopping malls, restaurants and bars, places of entertainment, casinos, bingo and billiard halls, taxicabs and limousines).

Outdoor Patios

- Smoking is prohibited if the patio has a roof or partial roof
- A roof includes an awning, tarp, canvas sheeting or other partial or complete covering – whether temporary or permanent
- A stand-alone umbrella covering a single table would not be considered a roof

Employers

An 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.

Responsibilities of Employers

- To ensure that employees and the public are aware that smoking is prohibited within the enclosed public place

- To ensure that employees and the public do not smoke within the enclosed public place
- To remove ashtrays from within the enclosed public place
- To post 'No Smoking' signs at all entrances, exits, washrooms and other appropriate locations within the enclosed public place
- Signage is available from Peel Health. Please contact the Region of Peel – Public Health at 905-799-7700

The Promotion of Tobacco and the Promotion of the Sale of Tobacco Is Prohibited at Places of Entertainment

A place of entertainment is any place accessible to the public primarily for the purpose of eating, drinking or any form of amusement, (e.g. theatres, nightclubs, bowling alleys).

Enforcement

Tobacco Enforcement Officers and Public Health Inspectors are responsible for enforcement of the Smoke-Free Ontario Act.

Penalties

Any individual convicted of an offence under this section of the Act could be subject to a maximum fine of \$5,000.

Any corporation convicted of an offence under this section of the Act could be subject to a maximum fine of \$300,000.

This fact sheet is intended as a quick reference only. For more information, please visit the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion website at www.mhp.gov.on.ca/english/health/smoke_free/default.asp or contact the Region of Peel – Public Health at 905-799-7700 or toll free from Caledon at 905-584-2216, or visit www.smokefree-peelregion.ca. The Region of Peel can also provide information about the health effects of second-hand smoke, resources on how to create smoke-free spaces (e.g. homes, cars) and offers free support/counselling to those interested in quitting smoking.

