



## Smoke-Free Schools under the *Smoke Free Ontario Act*

The *Smoke-Free Ontario Act (SFOA)* came into effect May 31, 2006. It prohibits smoking and holding lighted tobacco in all schools and on associated school grounds.

### How does the *SFOA* compare to the *Tobacco Control Act, 1994* in relation to school legislation?

The *SFOA* retains all no-smoking legislation pertaining to schools that have previously existed under the *TCA*. Under the *SFOA*, private schools have been added to the list of public places where smoking is prohibited.

### What is the no-smoking legislation under the *SFOA* for public and private schools in York Region? What are the fines for non-compliance?

#### ❖ **Signs**

Under the *SFOA*, schools are required to post no-smoking signs at all entrances, exit ways, and bathrooms. To order signs, call York Region *Health Connection* at **1-800-361-5653**.

#### ❖ **Smoking**

Smoking or holding lighted tobacco is prohibited by all persons:

- Inside a school with no exceptions
- Outside on school grounds including playing fields, courtyards, driveways, parking lots, inside cars in parking lots and school buses.

Fines range from \$305.00 to \$5,000.

#### ❖ **Sale and supply of tobacco to youth**

Selling, supplying or sharing cigarettes to anyone under 19 is illegal. This law is enforced on and off school property.

Fines range from \$365.00 to \$ 100,000.

### Who is affected?

These laws apply to all persons 24 hours a day / 7 days a week.

### How can I report a violation of the *SFOA*?

To report a violation please complete a *Witness Report* (attached here) and fax it to the Tobacco Education and Control Team of the York Region Community and Health Services Department at 905-762-2091. You also may call our Complaint Line at 905-762-1282 Ext. 4825. You may leave an anonymous complaint and it will be investigated.

### Where can I go for more information on the *SFOA*?

Contact York Region *Health Connection* **1-800-361-5653** or visit the Ministry of Health Promotion website at [www.mhp.gov.on.ca](http://www.mhp.gov.on.ca)

