

Health Resources for Schools

Aboriginal Tobacco-Use Resource List

This document includes a list of resources available to teachers on Tobacco-Use in First Nations Communities. For more information or general questions, contact York Region's Health Connection line at 1-800-361-5653 TTY 1-866- 252-9933 or visit www.york.ca.

1.0 Canada-based resources

1.1 First Nations and Inuit Health from Health Canada

Information on the traditional and non-traditional use of tobacco in Canada and facts on smoking rates within First Nations' communities.

Website: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/substan/tobac-tabac/index-eng.php

Phone: 416-426-7120

Email: curriculum@ophea.org

1.2 Mi'kmaq Spirit

A website created by two members of the First Nations community to inform people about culture, history, and spirituality of the Mi'kmaw people. It includes information about the Sacred Pipe and Pipe Ceremony.

Website: www.muiniskw.org/pgCulture2f.htm

1.3 Native Spirituality Guide from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police

A guide to help police officers gain an understanding of sacred ceremonies practiced and sacred items carried by many Native people across Canada.

Website: www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/pubs/abo-aut/spirit-spiritualite-eng.htm

2.0 Ontario-based resources

2.1 Aboriginal Peoples' Use of Tobacco

How the Smoke-Free Ontario Act affects the use of tobacco by Aboriginal People.

Website: www.mhp.gov.on.ca/en/smoke-free/factsheets/aboriginal.asp

2.2 Aboriginal Tobacco Program

Program engages Aboriginal communities to create health promotion strategies to decrease and prevent the misuse of tobacco.

Website: <https://www.cancercare.on.ca/about/programs/aborstrategy/aborigtobac/>

1-800-361-5653

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York Region Health Connection

Community and Health Services

Public Health

www.york.ca

2.3 Tobacco wise – Aboriginal Tobacco Program

A website hosted by the Aboriginal Tobacco Program of Cancer Care Ontario to spread tobacco-wise messaging for Aboriginal youth. Someone who is “tobacco-wise” is defined as someone who can differentiate between traditional and commercial tobacco. The website includes information on traditional tobacco, additional resources and success stories.

Website: www.tobaccowise.com

3.0 Other provincial-based resources

3.1 Alberta Health Services: Traditions, truths & uses

An article about the evolution of tobacco-use in North America since the 1900s from the Alberta Health Services online magazine called “Apple”.

Website: www.albertahealthservices.ca/apple/8517.asp

3.2 Middlesex-London Health Unit: Traditional Tobacco Use

Middlesex-London Health Unit has provided a summary of traditional tobacco-use among Aboriginal people in Canada.

Website: www.healthunit.com/traditional-tobacco-use

4.0 American-based resources

4.1 Keep it Sacred

A forum for tribes and tribal organizations to obtain and disseminate evidence-based, and culturally appropriate information in order to identify and eliminate health disparities related to commercial tobacco abuse.

Website: www.keepitsacred.org

4.2 Sacred Tobacco Use in Ojibwe Communities

An article from the *Journal of Holistic Nursing* about the sacred use of tobacco in American Ojibwe communities. Six members of the Ojibwe community were interviewed about the sacred use of tobacco. The article discusses three essential themes: the origin of sacred traditional tobacco; contemporary use and abuse of tobacco; and cultural strengths and meaning of tobacco in Anishinabe (Ojibwe) communities.

Website: <http://nursing.ucla.edu/workfiles/caiire/articles/sacred%20tobacco%20use.pdf>

