



Councillor Joe Mihevc

Toronto City Hall
St. Paul's West
Ward 21

9 December 2013

Dear Board of Health Members,

On November 18, 2013, Bill 131 - *Youth Smoking Prevention Act* - was introduced in the provincial legislature. The proposed Act, which passed first reading, would make the following amendments to the Smoke Free Ontario Act (SFOA):

- increase fines for those who sell tobacco to youth;
- prohibit the sale of flavoured tobacco products; and
- provide local Tobacco Enforcement Officers the authority to test for waterpipe tobacco use in indoor public places.
- prohibit tobacco sales on post-secondary education campuses and specified provincial government properties;
- prohibit smoking on playgrounds, sports fields, restaurant and bar patios, hospital grounds and select provincial government-owned properties.

The proposed amendments are aligned with the recommendations of Toronto Public Health staff report, *Smoke-Free Toronto: Strengthening Protection*, which was adopted by the Board of Health and City Council on September 30 and November 13, 2013 respectively; and would establish a province-wide standard for protection from second-hand smoke and social exposure to smoking in outdoor public places. I am writing to recommend that the Board of Health:

1. Call on the Premier of Ontario, and all Ontario members of provincial parliament (MPPs) to support Bill 131 in its entirety;
2. Call on the Government, Opposition, and NDP House Leaders to work together to ensure all Ontario MPPs support an expeditious passage of the proposed legislation in Spring 2014; and
3. Call on all Ontario MPPs to ensure a timely proclamation of the Bill once passed, so that it comes in to force by Summer 2014.

Sincerely,

Councillor Joe Mihevc
Ward 21, St. Paul's West

Enc. Correspondence from Michael Perley, Director, Ontario Campaign for Action on Tobacco