

HL 24.3.6



**TORONTO EAST  
GENERAL HOSPITAL**

☼ **Toronto East General  
Hospital**

Tel: (416) 461-8272  
Fax: (416) 469-6106  
825 Coxwell Ave.  
Toronto, ON  
M4C 3E7  
www.tegh.on.ca

☼ **South East Toronto  
Family Health Team**

Tel: (416) 469-6464  
Fax: (416) 469-6164  
840 Coxwell Ave.  
Toronto, ON  
M4C 5T2

☼ **Community  
Outreach Services**

Tel: (416) 461-2000  
Fax: (416) 461-2222  
177 Danforth Ave.  
Suite 203  
Toronto, ON  
M4K 1N2

☼ **Withdrawal  
Management Centre**

Tel: (416) 461-2010  
Fax: (416) 461-1164  
985 Danforth Ave.  
Toronto, ON  
M4J 1M1

September 26, 2013

Toronto Board of Health  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen St. W, 10th floor  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N1  
[boh@toronto.ca](mailto:boh@toronto.ca)

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Agenda item HL24.3, September 30, 2013  
re: Smoke-Free Toronto: Strengthening Protection

On behalf of Toronto East General Hospital (TEGH), I am writing in support of the Board of Health extending smoke-free zones in Toronto and requesting that the province be asked to ban smoking on all hospital grounds in Toronto.

As places of healing, TEGH has long believed in the importance of hospitals extending no smoking areas to include their full property. Our hospital's first smoke-free policy was implemented in 2006 to ensure those who work, visit or receive services at TEGH do not experience the detrimental health consequences associated with second-hand smoke. The hospital has strengthened its commitment since 2006 and is currently taking part in a smoking cessation demonstration project to help patients and staff quit smoking and to reinforce a smoking ban on all TEGH property.

Our experience has shown that there are challenges in enforcing a smoke-free facility, but that these challenges can be overcome. Legislation would send a powerful message of support for smoke-free hospitals currently struggling with enforcement and for organizations who would like to move forward in making their facility smoke-free. Furthermore, TEGH, as a leader in enforcing a smoke-free environment, would be happy to lend its support to others who wish to embark on this journey.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rob Devitt  
President & CEO