



**Deputation in Support of Smoke-Free Toronto: Strengthening Protection.  
September 30, 2013 Meeting of the Toronto Board of Health**

Good Afternoon Members of the Board of Health, City Staff and Guests.

My name is Jeff Carmichael and I'm here today to represent and to speak on behalf of the Toronto Sports Council and the many Toronto community sport organizations that are part of our network.

I'm here to explain to you why we support a stronger Smoke-Free Toronto.

The Toronto Sports Council is a non-profit organization that strives to assist and support the growth of sport. We promote active involvement in sport and physical recreation. We focus on participation development; participation for all. We focus on contributing to a healthier and more physically literate Toronto through quality sport experiences.

Promoting a Tobacco-Free Toronto is not new to the Toronto Sports Council.

Our Sports Council took a lead role in preparing the bid to host the 2012 Ontario Summer Games in Toronto. One important and highly valued component of that bid was that the Games would be a Tobacco-Free Games.

The bid was successful.

In 2012, the City of Toronto hosted the Ontario Summer Games. It was a Tobacco-Free Games. The sport fields and the spectator areas at all venues were smoke-free. The entrances to the indoor sport facilities were smoke-free. The 3,200 participants from across the province and the thousands of spectators understood why smoke and sport do not mix – smokers respected our policy and there were no challenges with enforcing that policy.

In addition, the Toronto Sports Council have awarded several small grants to sport organizations for their development of a Tobacco-Free policy.

Exposure to smoke on and around sport facilities is not desirable. Our network of sport organizations represent thousands of participants, most of them being children and youth. We promote the value of a healthy and high quality sport experience. We know that exposure to smoke is always detrimental to ones' health. Exposure to smoke will always have a negative impact on a healthy and quality sport experience.

Thank you.

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