



## YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

BOARD POLICY	
<i>Policy Section</i> <b>Community</b>	<i>Policy Number</i> <b>610</b>
<i>Former Policy #</i> <b>410</b>	<i>Page</i> <b>1 of 4</b>
<i>Original Approved Date</i>	<i>Subsequent Approval Dates</i>
<b>November 1986</b>	<b>August 28, 1990 January 1995 April 6, 2010 January 28, 2014 January 6, 2016 November 27, 2018</b>

### POLICY TITLE: CANNABIS, ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES, TOBACCO – A SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT

#### SECTION A

##### 1. PURPOSE

The Board endeavours to provide and maintain learning and working environments which safeguard the health and welfare of students, employees, visitors and stakeholders. Such environments are free from the harmful effects of cannabis, electronic cigarettes and tobacco products, in order to uphold legislation within the broader community. This is achieved by prohibiting the smoking and/or the use of cannabis, electronic cigarettes and tobacco products, anywhere on Board property, in Board premises and all locations where Board or School sanctioned activities take place.

##### 2. POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the York Catholic District School Board to declare, establish and maintain a cannabis, electronic cigarettes and tobacco smoke-free environment in all premises and on all properties, owned and/or operated by the Board.

##### 3. PARAMETERS

- 3.1 This policy is governed primarily by the *Smoke Free Ontario Act* (SFOA) and the *Cannabis Act* which prohibits smoking and/or holding lighted or heated tobacco, smoking or holding lighted medical cannabis or cannabis products, using electronic cigarette devices, consuming or using any other type of tobacco and cannabis products on board premises or within a twenty (20) metre perimeter of public areas outside of Board owned premises and in Board operated vehicles. Enhanced protection from the addictive nature of all cannabis and tobacco products shall be provided by further prohibiting usage of same.
- 3.2 Persons who fail to comply with the *Acts* are subject to consequences as may be imposed by enforcement of the *Smoke Free Ontario Act*, *Cannabis Act*, *Safe School*

- policies and/or Codes of Conduct of the York Catholic District School Board and the local school.
- 3.3 *Smoke-Free Ontario Act (SFOA)* prescribed signage shall be posted in all entrances, exits and washrooms on Board premises.
  - 3.4 Relevant material dealing with the *Smoke Free Ontario Act, Cannabis Act* and legislation and/or information relating to the harmful effects of consuming cannabis and tobacco products, using electronic cigarettes devices as well as smoking cessation shall be posted in all Board premises.
  - 3.5 Accommodation requests for student use of medically prescribed cannabis will be in accordance with Policy 207A *Administration of Oral Prescription Medication to Elementary & Secondary Students*.
  - 3.6 Accommodation requests for employee use of medically prescribed cannabis will be in accordance with Policy 415 *Accessibility Standards for Employment* through the Superintendent of Human Resources and in collaboration with the Manager of Employee Health and Wellness.
  - 3.7 An exception to this policy shall be made for the traditional use of tobacco that forms part of Aboriginal (Indigenous) culture(s) and spirituality, when used for such purposes as per Section 19 of the *Smoke Free Ontario Act*.

#### **4. RESPONSIBILITIES**

##### **4.1 Director of Education**

- 4.1.1 To oversee compliance with the Cannabis, Electronic Cigarettes, Tobacco - A Smoke-Free Environment policy.

##### **4.2 Superintendents, Senior Managers and Principals**

- 4.2.1 To support the parameters outlined within this policy.
- 4.2.2 To address infractions to this policy in accordance with the Board's Safe Schools or Code of Conduct policies and the local school's Code of Conduct.
- 4.2.3 To notify the Permit department of any violations to the Cannabis, Electronic Cigarettes, Tobacco – A Smoke-Free Environment policy.
- 4.2.4 To ensure that this policy has been communicated to all permit, contract and lease holders.

##### **4.3 Superintendent of Human Resources**

- 4.3.1 To communicate the expectations of this policy to all Board employees at the time of hire and thereafter on an annual basis.
- 4.3.2 To ensure that all accommodation requests from employees for the use of medical prescribed cannabis in the workplace are reviewed in accordance with board policy and procedures in consultation with the Manager of Employee Health and Wellness.

##### **4.4 York Region Health Services, Tobacco Control Officers**

- 4.4.1 To enforce the *Smoke Free Ontario Act (SFOA)*, including issuing tickets or laying charges, and issuing summonses to those individuals who are found smoking and/or holding lighted or heated tobacco products, smoking and/or holding lighted or heated cannabis or cannabis products and/or using electronic cigarette devices on Board property.

#### **4.5 All Individuals on Board Premises**

4.5.1 To uphold the prohibition of any possession of tobacco and cannabis products and to refrain from smoking and/or holding lighted or heated tobacco or cannabis, using electronic cigarettes devices, consuming or using any other type of tobacco or cannabis products on Board property, in Board-operated premises or vehicles, or in vehicles parked on Board property.

### **5. DEFINITIONS**

#### **5.1 Board Premises and Property**

Includes all administrative buildings of the Board, Board operated buildings including schools, and all locations where Board or School sanctioned educational activities are taking place. Board-owned vehicles and machinery are also considered to be Board property.

#### **5.2 Cannabis**

Cannabis consists of the dried flowers, fruit tops and leaves from the marijuana plant. It is mostly a greenish or brownish colour. Cannabis resin (or hashish) is a brown or black secretion from the marijuana plant that can be further processed to produce hash oil, wax or “shatter”, a concentrated extract with very high levels of THC (tetrahydrocannabinol).

#### **5.3 Cannabis Product(s)**

Any product(s) containing, made or derived from cannabis that is intended for human consumption whether smoked, heated, inhaled, dissolved, or ingested by any other means, or any component part, or accessory of the cannabis product. Common types of cannabis products include dried cannabis (e.g., joints, spliffs, blunts), concentrated cannabis products (e.g., hash, hash oil, shatter, wax), and edible cannabis concentrates (plant seeds, edibles containing cannabis or cannabis concentrates and any other food or drink products containing cannabis).

#### **5.4 Electronic Cigarettes Device**

Refers to a vaporizer or inhalant-type device, whether called an electronic cigarette or by any other branded name, that consists of a battery-powered delivery system that vaporizes and delivers a liquid chemical mixture that may be composed of various amounts of nicotine, propylene glycol, and/or other chemicals intended to be inhaled by the user of the device. Most of these products are shaped and look like their conventional counterparts. They produce a vapour that resembles smoke and a glow that resembles the tip of a cigarette.

#### **5.5 Individuals on Board Premises**

Includes students, staff, trustees, contractors, parents/guardians, volunteers, permit holders and all others who are invited to or who work on Board property and in Board operated buildings.

#### **5.6 Medical Cannabis User**

A person who is authorized to possess cannabis for their own medical purposes, as prescribed by a physician or health care practitioner, in accordance with applicable federal law.

#### **5.7 Smoke-Free Environment**

An environment that is free from smoke caused by holding lighted or heated tobacco or cannabis, using electronic cigarette devices and consuming or using any other type of tobacco or cannabis products.

## 5.8 Tobacco Product

Any product containing, made, or derived from tobacco that are intended for human consumption, whether chewed, smoked, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any other means. Common types of tobacco products include, but are not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, pipes, blunt wraps, beedies, shisha, shew, plug, snuff and snus.

## 6. CROSS REFERENCES

YCDSB Policy 202	<a href="#">Safe Schools - Student Discipline</a>
YCDSB Policy 207A	<a href="#">Administration of Oral Prescription Medication to Elementary &amp; Secondary Students</a>
YCDSB Policy 218	<a href="#">Code of Conduct</a>
YCDSB Policy 415	<a href="#">Accessibility Standards for Employment</a>
YCDSB Policy 703	<a href="#">Community Use of Schools</a>

YCDSB Student Transportation Services - Procedure Manual

YCDSB Disability Management – Early Intervention, Accommodations and Return to Work Procedure

[Cannabis Act](#)

[Education Act, Section 302 \(1\)](#)

[Smoke Free Ontario Act \(SFOA\)](#)

<b>Approval by Board</b>	<b>November 27, 2018</b> <hr/> <i>Date</i>
<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>November 28, 2018</b> <hr/> <i>Date</i>
<b>Revision Dates</b>	<b>November 27, 2018</b> <hr/> <i>Date</i>
<b>Review Date</b>	<b>November 2023</b> <hr/> <i>Date</i>