

TOBACCO, CANNABIS, VAPING, AND SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT

POLICY

The Rainy River District School Board will provide tobacco, cannabis, vaping, and smoke-free learning and working environments.

RATIONALE

Students and staff have the right to learn and work in safe and healthy environments.

IMPLEMENTATION

As per Procedure 6.11 Tobacco, Cannabis, Vaping, and Smoke-Free Environment and Guidelines

GUIDELINES

1.0 Health Education

- 1.1 The Rainy River District School Board recognizes that one of the goals of education is to help students develop the skills that they need to make healthy choices. As such, the effects of using tobacco, cannabis, electronic cigarettes and vaping will be taught in accordance with the Ontario Health and Physical Education curriculum.
- 1.2 A summary of this policy will be included in all school handbooks.

2.0 Enforcement

- 2.1 The following items are prohibited on Board property and at school-related events:
 - Tobacco and tobacco-related products
 - Electronic cigarettes/vapour devices and products
 - Cannabis, including medical cannabis, unless under a Prescribed Plan of Care.
- 2.2 A person found to be using a prohibited item on Board property may be subject to disciplinary action from the school and/or by Public Health including the issuing of warnings, suspensions, and/or fines.

3.0 Exceptions

- 3.1 The Rainy River District School Board recognizes that smudging and the offering of tobacco for Elders, Senators, and Knowledge Keepers are part of the Indigenous traditional way of life, and is, therefore, permitted in designated spaces, subject to proper health and safety measures.

3.2 A student or staff member who is prescribed medical cannabis may follow a Plan of Care provided the Plan of Care does not include smoking or vaping of medical cannabis on school property and at school related events.

DEFINITIONS

Board Property includes school and Board buildings and all adjacent Board property, including day care centers, Early Years programs, Before-and-After Programs, playgrounds, parking lots, Board-owned vehicles, as well as school buses when being used to transport students to and from school and on school-authorized activities.

Tobacco product means any product containing, made or derived from tobacco that is 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, blunt wraps, chew, plug, snuff and snus.

Vapour Device or Product means any product that looks like their conventional counterparts or is used in a similar way, i.e., vaping including electronic cigarettes, cigars, and pipes as well as cartridges of nicotine solutions and related products. This includes the use of a hookah, waterpipe or any other apparatus to smoke medical cannabis, shisha or other plant matter that may or may not include tobacco.

Smudging - is a First Nation tradition which involves the burning of one of the four sacred medicines gathered from the earth: sweet grass, sage, cedar, and tobacco.

CROSS-REFERENCE	LEGAL/MINISTRY OF EDUCATION REFERENCE
<p>Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 3.02 Progressive Discipline for Employees ▪ 4.11 Supporting Students with Prevalent Medical Conditions ▪ 4.16 Safe Schools <p>Procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 3.02 Progressive Discipline for Employees ▪ 4.30 Student Discipline 4.11 Supporting Students with Prevalent Medical Conditions ▪ 6.11 Tobacco, Cannabis, Vaping, and Smoke-Free Environment ▪ 6.12 Smudging 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Education Act</i>, R.S.O. 1990 ▪ <i>Smoke Free Ontario Act</i>, S.O. 2017 ▪ <i>Cannabis Act 2017</i>