

TITLE: SMOKING AND TOBACCO USE

POLICY STATEMENT: The Red Deer College (RDC) recognizes the hazards caused by exposure to environmental tobacco smoke, as well as the life threatening diseases linked to the use of all forms of tobacco. As such the purpose of this policy is to help create a safer and healthier working and learning environment for the RDC Community.

PURPOSE: To provide protection from second-hand smoke, communicate Smoking and tobacco use restrictions, recognize that tobacco is an addictive substance, provide smoking or tobacco cessation support to members of the college who are addicted to nicotine and prevent tobacco use and smoking uptake, and promote a tobacco-free lifestyle and environment.

SCOPE: This policy applies to all members of the RDC Community participating in events, activities, RDC programs or courses, organized class activities or business activities including conferences, on or off campus, and covers the following:

- Smoking of tobacco or any other substance that results in smoke being inhaled or tasted;
- Vaporizing e-cigarettes, or any other vaping device (e.g. vape pen or vaporizer);
- Using oral tobacco products.

RDC recognizes and accepts that some traditional indigenous events or ceremonies involve the use of smudge sticks or other materials as provided under the *Tobacco and Smoking Reductions Act, 2013*.

PRINCIPLES:

1. Policies at RDC:

- 1.1. Treat all persons fairly and respectfully.
- 1.2. Are non-discriminatory and non-intrusive.
- 1.3. Incorporate open, honest and timely communication.
- 1.4. Are made in a timely manner.
- 1.5. Provide appropriate confidentiality and privacy.
- 1.6. Provide appropriate access to the College and education.
- 1.7. Ensure that all persons have access to informed support regarding policies, procedures, rights and responsibilities.
- 1.8. Operate with clear written expectations for conduct and handling of complaints.
- 1.9. Meet all regulatory standards.
- 1.10. Maintain and clearly state a high standard of instruction and administration in all areas of educational programs and services.
- 1.11. Are communicated in alternate forms to those who require such accommodation.

2. The following principle applies specifically to this policy:

2.1. RDC has a responsibility to provide all those within the scope of this policy a safe and healthy environment.

DEFINITIONS:

Cannabis: a broad term used to describe the various products derived from the leaves, flowers and resins of the *Cannabis sativa* and *Cannabis indica* plants, or hybrids of the two. These products exist in various forms and are used for different purposes (e.g. medical, recreational, industrial).

NOTE: The federal government of Canada has adopted the term “Cannabis” to describe Cannabis products in general, as opposed to the commonly-used term “marijuana” (which only describes parts of the plant).

Cannabis Consumption: the act of consuming Cannabis for non-medical purposes. Cannabis can be used in many ways, including:

- smoke (e.g. a joint, blunt, spliff, pipe or bong)
- vaporize with a vaporizer (non-portable)
- vaporize with a vape pen or e-cigarette (portable)
- eat in food (e.g. brownies, cakes, cookies or candy or other edible product)
- drink (e.g. tea, juice, cola, alcohol or other drinks)
- dab (e.g. applying to a hot surface with a metal tool)
- other (e.g. tinctures/drops under tongue, applied directly to the skin in a lotion)

RDC Community: a member of the Red Deer College Community. This includes:

- Student – any person enrolled in study at RDC (e.g. apprentice, credit, non-credit)
- Employee – any person who is employed by RDC or who provides services to RDC under an employment contract (e.g. faculty, staff, exempt personnel)
- RDC Board of Governors – any member of the Board of Governors for RDC
- Volunteer – any person performing work for RDC in an unpaid capacity
- Contractor/Lessee/Tenant – an individual or company (and its employees) who provide services to RDC and/or rents space from RDC
- Community Members/Visitors/Guests – any person working in collaboration with RDC for a business or academic purpose, or a visitor to campus

Smoke or Smoking: inhaling, exhaling, burning, carrying or having possession of a burning or lighted cigarette (including e-cigarettes), cigar or pipe, or any other lighted or heated tobacco in any manner or form. Smoking also includes the use of an electronic inhaling device which creates an aerosol or vapor, in any manner or in any form, or the use of any oral smoking device.

Designated Smoking Areas (DSA): outdoor areas approved by Health, Safety and Wellness and are clearly marked with signage.

GUIDELINES:

1. All indoor locations on RDC property are smoke-free which includes Smoking, the use of smokeless tobacco and e-cigarettes. This includes student residences and any locations and vehicles owned, rented or leased by RDC.
2. Smoking and tobacco use (including e-cigarettes) is strictly limited to labelled outdoor Designated Smoking Areas (DSAs) which are equipped with tobacco receptacles and identified by physical delimitations.
3. The Gary W. Harris Canada Games Centre outdoor grounds (including pathways, sidewalks, patio areas, landscape areas, playing fields and entranceways) is designated tobacco and smoke free (inclusive of e-cigarettes).
4. The College prohibits the consumption of Cannabis in any form on RDC property including all public places, vehicles and workplaces including but not limited to buildings and garages.
5. The selling and purchasing of tobacco products, E-cigarette products and Cannabis on campus is prohibited.
6. Smoking and tobacco cessation support and services are available to the RDC Community. Further information or assistance can be obtained from Health, Safety and Wellness.
7. Corrective measures may be necessary in instances where activities are in contravention of this policy or other relevant legislation.
8. Smoking and tobacco use (inclusive of e-cigarettes) is prohibited in accordance with applicable legislation and local by-laws.
9. Students, employees, RDC Board of Governors and volunteers are responsible for knowing, understanding, and complying with RDC policies, procedures, and any other attached documentation related to their position, employment, or enrolment at the College. Non-compliance may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the applicable disciplinary policy.

PROCEDURE:

1. Contractors/Lessees/Tenants in violation of this policy may be required to leave the campus or be subject to actions or breach of contract.
2. Community Members/Visitors/Guests in violation of this policy will be asked to leave the RDC premises.

OFFICER RESPONSIBLE: Vice President, Corporate

POLICY CATEGORY: Non-Academic

RECOMMENDING AUTHORITY: Service Council

CONSULTATION FOR REVIEW: Service Council, Manager, Health, Safety & Wellness Centre

POLICY REVIEW DATE: September 2019

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 17, 2018

REVISION HISTORY: January 1, 2003 (Smoking on Campus Standard Practice)
January 9, 2007

February 1, 2010 (revised and renamed Tobacco Use on Campus Policy)

February 1, 2018 (revised and renamed Smoking and Tobacco Use)

October 17, 2018 (revised)

RELATED POLICIES:

- [Cannabis on Campus](#)
- [Employee Code of Conduct](#)
- [Health and Safety](#)
- [Student Misconduct: Non-Academic](#)

CONNECTION TO BOARD POLICIES:

All RDC policies support relevant Board of Governors policies.