



Smoke-Free Policy

Category: Operations

Approval: President and Vice-Presidents Group (PVP)

Responsibility: Vice-President, Human Resources

Date Approved: June 20, 2006, Revised on October 29, 2018, March 6, 2023

Definitions:

Campus means all property owned or leased by Trent University, including work vehicles.

Cannabis accessory means a thing, including rolling papers or wraps, holders, pipes, water pipes, bongs and vaporizers that is represented to be used in the consumption of cannabis.

Designated smoking area means an area, such as a smoking shelter, that is designated for smoking by Trent University.

Electronic Cigarette means a vaporizer or inhalant-type device that contains a power source designed to heat a substance and produce a vapour intended to be inhaled by the user of the device directly through the mouth whether or not the device contains nicotine.

Enclosed Workplace means any place, building, structure, vehicle or conveyance that is covered by a roof and in which employees work or frequent during the course of their employment and that is not primarily a private dwelling.

Private Dwelling means any self-contained living quarters in any building or facility, including those in Student Housing.

Smudging means an Indigenous practice of the burning of certain herbs, including tobacco, in order to create a cleansing smoke, which is used to purify people as well as ceremonial and ritual spaces, tools and objects.

Vape the act of inhaling tobacco, cannabis or any other product from an electronic cigarette.

Purpose/Reason for Policy:

The purpose of this policy is to confirm the University's commitment to a healthy and safe environment, to reduce social exposure to smoking and second-hand smoke on Trent property and ensure Trent University's alignment with the Smoke Free Ontario Act, Regulation 48/06 made under the Act, the Electronic Cigarettes Act, 2014 (Bill 45) and the Cannabis Control Act, 2017, the Region of Durham Smoking and Vaping By-Law (028-2019), and the City of Peterborough Smoking By-Law (18-114).

The University may grant an exception to the prohibition on smoking on campus in certain limited circumstances, e.g. for research that has received all required clearances. Trent University recognizes the unique relationship that many Indigenous cultures have with traditional and sacred medicines such as tobacco. The University will grant an exception to the prohibition on smoking on campus for Indigenous cultural and spiritual ceremonies.

Scope of this Policy:

This policy governs the use and sale of tobacco and cannabis products on campus, including all private dwellings, but does not include the Forensic Crime Scene Facility.

This policy does not apply to tobacco used for traditional Aboriginal cultural or spiritual purposes. It does not apply to tobacco or cannabis used for scientific research or testing, or to approved products intended for use in nicotine replacement therapy.

Policy Statement:

Trent University is committed to the health and wellness of the Trent Community and will ensure smoking cessation and cannabis harm reduction programs are made available to students and employees. Trent will accommodate persons with medical cannabis prescriptions and support the traditional ceremonial tobacco use for ceremonial purposes.

Trent University will work with those requiring accommodations for medical cannabis prescriptions or accessibility to designated smoking areas to develop an individualized plan to accommodate their needs.

Peterborough

No person on a Trent University Peterborough campus shall:

- sell or supply tobacco or cannabis, tobacco or cannabis accessories, or electronic cigarettes;
- smoke or hold lighted tobacco or cannabis anywhere on Trent campus, including in personal vehicles while parked on Trent campus, except designated smoking areas. Temporary smoking areas may be approved by the Health and Safety Advisor for special events.
- vape tobacco or cannabis:
 - in any campus building or university owned, leased or rented vehicles;
 - on a restaurant or bar patio;
 - within 9 meters of a building entrance, operable window or air intake;
 - within 20 meters of a sports facility or children’s playground.

Ashtrays are not permitted in enclosed workplaces, except vehicles where installed by the manufacturer. Ashtrays will only be located in designated smoking areas.

Trent University will post and maintain the prescribed “no smoking except in designated areas” signs at all building entrances and exits, children’s playgrounds, patios and sporting areas, and other areas as needed such as spaces where members of the public interact with Trent’s campuses.

Durham

No person on the Trent University Durham GTA campus shall:

- sell or supply tobacco or cannabis, tobacco or cannabis products, or electronic cigarettes;
- smoke or vape tobacco or cannabis, except medical cannabis, anywhere on campus.

Trent University Durham GTA will post and maintain the prescribed “no smoking” signs at all entrances to campus.

Responsibilities:

The Associate Vice-Presidents, Deans, Directors, Executive Directors, University Registrar and University Librarian, in accordance with the responsibilities delegated by their respective Vice-Presidents, are responsible for communicating and upholding this Policy.

The Human Resources and Student Wellness departments will make smoking cessation and cannabis harm reduction programs and supports available to the Trent community.

The Health and Safety Advisor will ensure signs are displayed as required by this policy and ensure any temporary smoking areas for special events comply, as a minimum, with vaping restrictions.

Facilities Maintenance will construct and maintain accessible designated smoking shelters.

Campus Safety is responsible to enforce this policy and respond to complaints of non-compliance.

Contact Officer:

Health and Safety Advisor

Date for Next Review:

March, 2026

Related Legislation:

- Human Rights Code, R.S.O. 1990, c. H.19;
- Smoke-Free Ontario Act, S.O. 1994, c. 10 and Regulation 48/06
- Electronic Cigarettes Act, 2015, S.O. 2015, c. 7, Sched. 3
- Cannabis Act, S.C. 2018, c.16 (Federal)
- Cannabis Act, 2017, S.O. 2017, c. 26 (Ontario) and Regulation 325/18
- Region of Durham Smoking and Vaping By-Law (028-2019)
- City of Peterborough Smoking By-Law (18-114)

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

a) Related policies can be found on the Human Resources website

(<https://www.trentu.ca/humanresources/>)

Policies Superseded by This Policy

b) N/A