



August 30, 2007

Tobacco and Smoking Banned in Public Places and Schools

The *Tobacco Control Act* (Bill 10) comes into force on **September 2, 2007**.

With the limited exception for ceremonial use, **all persons are prohibited from distributing, smoking, using tobacco, or holding lighted tobacco, in or on school property.**

School property refers to all property owned or leased by, or operated under the authority of, a board, and includes real property and improvements, designated areas and **personal property** (personal vehicles on district property).

While our district works towards a policy on a tobacco free environment, the following expectations exist in SD 20.

- All School District grounds, designated areas, buildings, buses and vehicles are to be tobacco-free at all times.
- Students will not distribute, hold lighted tobacco, smoke or use tobacco products while under school or district work site jurisdiction, or at any time while on school field trips, competitive events, extra-curricular activities, or any other school-related activity.
- Violations of the *Tobacco Control Act* shall result in discipline.

All principals, directors and supervisors are required to inform all students, staff, public, and parents of the new requirements of the *Tobacco Control Act*. The legislation can be viewed at: http://www.leg.bc.ca/38th3rd/3rd_read/gov10-3.htm.

Each School District school and site is requested to post this communication, or other appropriate signage, at the building entrance doors.

Thank you for your cooperation with the new requirements of the *Tobacco Control Act*.

Board of Education SD # 20 (Kootenay-Columbia)
Jean Borsa, Superintendent of Schools