

Tracey Arthur

From: Eva Habib <habib@ash.ca>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 11:24 AM
To: Darryl Walker
Cc: Les Hagen; Liam Razzell
Subject: Re: Action on Smoking and Health - White Rock Follow-up
Attachments: White Rock City Council Bylaw No. 1858 - Action on Smoking and Health.pdf; ASH Municipal Model Smoking Bylaw 2020.docx

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Hello Mayor Walker,

I hope this email finds you well. I am following up with you to see if the City of White Rock had made any considerations to the letter ASH submitted on November 29, 2021? I have re-attached the letter here for your reference as well as the ASH model municipal bylaw. We are continuing our efforts to enhance smoke-free bylaws across the province and want to make sure ASH can support the city in these efforts.

Additionally, I would like to introduce you to Liam Razzell, the new BC Policy Specialist who will be continuing ASH outreach efforts in BC, as my term with ASH is ending this month. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Liam or Les.

Thank you,

Eva Habib, MPH (she/her)
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From: Eva Habib <habib@ash.ca>
Sent: November 29, 2021 3:23 PM
To: dwalker@whiterockcity.ca <dwalker@whiterockcity.ca>
Cc: Les Hagen <hagen@ash.ca>
Subject: Action on Smoking and Health - White Rock Follow-up

Hello Mayor Walker,

Thank you again for making the time to meet with Les and I last week. I trust you have received my letter I just submitted to Council recommending provisions to White Rock's smoking bylaw (see attached). As promised, I have also included ASH's model municipal bylaw policy for your reference.

We have connected with Adrianna from Fraser Health Authority as well, and we are really looking forward to working together on this important initiative.

Please let me know if you have any questions and feel free to reach out if I can be of any assistance. Thank you again for your support.

Warm regards,

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White Rock City Council
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November 29, 2021

Dear Mayor Walker and Council Members,

I am writing on behalf of **Action on Smoking & Health (ASH Canada)**, one of Canada's leading tobacco control organizations. In collaboration with our partners, we are working with municipalities, health authorities, post-secondary schools and school districts across British Columbia and Western Canada to address youth vaping and the potential renormalization of smoking.

Tobacco is the number one cause of premature disease and death in British Columbia and across Canada. Each year, **6,000 B.C. residents** die from illnesses caused by tobacco use. It has taken decades of hard work by governments and health organizations to protect the Canadian population from tobacco use and nicotine addiction, and this struggle continues today.

Youth vaping rates are skyrocketing, and urgent action is needed to reverse this trend. The **2018-19 Canadian Student Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs Survey** revealed that **e-cigarette prevalence rates doubled** among students since the previous survey conducted in 2016-17 (CSTADS, 2019). This is not surprising given the aggressive industry marketing targeting adolescents. The increasing public visibility of smoking behavior may renormalize smoking in public. Youth deserve first-class protection from smoking and vaping.

With the legalization of cannabis in Canada and the emergence of the vaping epidemic among Canada's youth, it is more important now than ever to revisit your tobacco vaping and cannabis bylaws and policies.

A **gold-standard smoking bylaw** would align restrictions on all forms of smoking and vaping (e.g. tobacco, nicotine, cannabis, hookah); ban smoking in all outdoor parks and recreation spaces (e.g. parks, recreation areas, public events and markets, playgrounds, sports fields, beaches, trails, transit stops and shelters); and establish setback distances from patios, doors, windows and air intakes. A number of municipalities in the Metro Vancouver Regional District have been leaders with comprehensive restrictions on smoking and vaping in public places (North Vancouver, Pitt Meadows, Port Coquitlam, Vancouver), including at outdoor parks and public events.

The City of White Rock should consider the following provisions to **Bylaw No. 1858**:

- Section 2.1: Adding public events, public markets, and trails to their list of public spaces where smoking is banned
- Adding water pipes and hookah to the "smoke" and "smoking" definition

Further considerations for City Council may include making hotel and motel rooms' smoke-free, and banning smoking in all group living facilities and public housing.

ASH is collaborating with **Fraser Health Authority** to encourage regional municipalities to enhance their smoking and vaping bylaws (see attached for the **ASH model municipal bylaw**), and we are very willing to work with you on revisions to your bylaw to ensure that all public places frequented by children and youth are completely smoke and vape-free.

Please feel free to contact me if you need any further information. We look forward to working with you to on this important public health issue.

Thank you,

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