
Smoking Policy

1. Preamble

- 1.1 The University of Lethbridge is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all who use the University premises or participate in University sponsored events.
- 1.2 Provincial legislation and municipal by-laws have been enacted to regulate smoking in the workplace and in public places, which includes university campuses. The University of Lethbridge seeks to adhere to and exceed the minimum requirements of existing smoking legislation through the development and implementation of additional internal standards and to create a successful environment for both smokers and non-smokers alike.
- 1.3 The University of Lethbridge recognizes tobacco as an addictive substance and that tobacco smoke is a health hazard and annoyance to some. The University of Lethbridge is committed to minimizing contact with second-hand smoke and providing education, information and other support for those with tobacco addictions.
- 1.4 The University of Lethbridge respects the rights of aboriginal people in traditional spiritual or cultural practices or ceremonies.
- 1.5 The University recognizes that the effective implementation of a smoking policy requires the help and support from students, faculty and staff. The University community is encouraged to help communicate this policy to all users of our campus.

2. Purpose

- 2.1 The purpose of this policy is:
 - To recognize the right of everyone to breathe smoke-free air;
 - To provide some accommodation for those who do smoke; and
 - To promote non-smoking through smoking cessation information and other support.

3. Application and Scope

- 3.1 This Policy applies to all users of the University of Lethbridge campus, including employees, students, contractors and visitors, and to those individuals who drive or are passengers in any University vehicle.
- 3.2 This Policy will be interpreted in accordance with the *Alberta Human Rights Act*, as amended from time to time.

Approval Authority	Implementation Authority	Effective Date
Board of Governors	Vice-President (Finance & Administration)	April 28, 2015

4. Definitions

For the purposes of this Policy:

- 4.1 **“Smoking”** means to carry or possess a lit cigarette, cigar, pipe, electronic cigarette, personal vaporizer or electronic nicotine delivery system or to use a tobacco and smoking related product in any manner, or the smoking of any other substance.
- 4.2 **“Public Place”** means all or any part of a building, structure or other enclosed area to which members of the public have access by right or by express or implied invitation.
- 4.3 **“Workplace”** means all or any part of a building, structure or other enclosed area in which employees perform the duties of their employment, whether or not members of the public have access to the building, structure or area by right or by expressed or implied invitation. The Workplace includes reception areas, corridors, lobbies, stairwells, elevators, escalators, eating areas, washrooms, lounges, storage areas, laundry rooms, enclosed parking garages and work vehicles.

5. Smoking and Tobacco Product Sales on Campus

- 5.1 In order to promote a safe and healthy environment to its employees, students, and users of its campus, and to reduce the exposure to the harmful substances produced by tobacco smoke, **NO PERSON SHALL SMOKE:**
 - In a public place;
 - In a workplace;
 - Within 10 metres from a doorway, window or air intake of a public place or workplace;
 - In designated non-smoking areas (NSA's) defined within this policy.
- 5.2 As per Alberta's *Tobacco and Smoking Reduction Act*, tobacco sales are prohibited from public post-secondary campuses.

6. Non-Smoking Areas (NSAs)

- 6.1 To reduce the exposure of non-smokers to second hand smoke, all NSAs on campus will be clearly and consistently marked and will be designed to conform to the City of Lethbridge *Smoking By-law* and the *Tobacco and Smoking Reduction Act*. See Appendix A for the maps of the NSAs on the University's Lethbridge campus.

7. Tobacco Reduction, Smoking Cessation and Other Support

- 7.1 The University will undertake education efforts to inform members of its community as to the serious health effects of smoking and second hand smoke. To assist employees and students who wish to stop smoking, the University will offer smoking cessation information and other support.

8. Legislation and References

- 8.1 This Policy is in compliance with the following Acts and bylaws:
 - *Tobacco and Smoking Reduction Act* (Alberta)
 - City of Lethbridge *Smoking By-law* 3896

Document History: September 24, 2015 (editorial revision); April 28, 2015; May 22, 2008



