

## Section III – Items for the Information of the Board

**TO:** Chair and Members of the Board of Directors  
Friday, March 26, 2021 Meeting

**FROM:** Richard Ubbens, Director, Parks and Culture

**RE: SMOKING POLICY UPDATE**

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### KEY ISSUE

To update the Board of Directors on the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) updated Alcohol, Smoking and Cannabis Policy.

### RECOMMENDATION

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the Smoking Policy Update report be received.**

### BACKGROUND

TRCA staff brought forth a report entitled *Smoking Policy Updates - Progress Report* at Board of Directors Meeting #4/19, held on April 26, 2019. Resolution #A50/19 was approved as follows:

*WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) public use lands and facilities are situated across multiple municipal jurisdictions, are subject to several management agreements, and include lease and partnership agreements with various stakeholders;*

*AND WHEREAS TRCA's Smoking Policy ("the Policy") must consider the complexities of all applicable by-laws, existing partnership agreements, and all users and stakeholders;*

*THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the progress report regarding updates to TRCA's Smoking Policy (herein Policy) be received;*

*AND THAT staff report back prior to spring of 2020 with an updated Smoking Policy.*

Following review of municipal partner smoking policies as well as consultation with TRCA partners, staff have updated TRCA's Alcohol, Smoking and Cannabis Policy (Attachment 1). Upon review of TRCA's existing policy structure, it was determined that a gap remained in addressing use of cannabis by third parties on TRCA land and there was also a need to update TRCA's use of alcohol policies. Given that most rules on the issue of smoking cannabis in Ontario follow the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act*, and the recreational nature of the new cannabis policy regime in Ontario, staff recommended combining the update to the Smoking Policy with that of the Alcohol Policy with necessary amendments to reflect use of recreational cannabis.

This policy was reviewed and approved by TRCA's Senior Leadership Team on November 12, 2020.

## Item 8.4

### **RATIONALE**

Over the 2019-2020 operating seasons, staff undertook the following steps to inform changes to the former Smoking Policy:

- Reviewed by-laws and policies of TRCA's partner municipalities and school boards to ensure that Policy updates are complimentary to their regulations;
- Consulted with other Conservation Authorities;
- Consulted with applicable health units regarding proposed updates;
- Consulted staff to determine frequency of any smoking related complaints and related enforcement requirements;
- Considered enforcement of potential policy changes;
- Consulted with TRCA's on-site business partners, Tree Top Trekking, byPeterandPauls.com, special event organizers, etc. regarding proposed policy updates;
- Consulted with stakeholders currently leasing lands from TRCA; and
- Reviewed TRCA's existing land management agreements, for land managed by TRCA on behalf of a third party (i.e. Glen Rouge Campground, Oak Ridges Corridor Park).

The updated policy aligns with the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act*, *Liquor License Act*, and the *Cannabis Act*.

### **Relationship to Building the Living City, the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan**

This report supports the following strategy set forth in the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan:

#### **Strategy 5 – Foster sustainable citizenship**

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**Date: February 10, 2021**

**Attachments: 1**

Attachment 1: CS-5.20-P Alcohol Smoking Cannabis