



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

## Project overview

In 2018 April, Calgary City Council directed City Administration to “engage citizens and key stakeholders (including Alberta Health Services) to further strengthen the Smoking and Vaping Bylaw 23M2018 with consideration to prohibiting the following:

- Waterpipe smoking in workplaces, public premises and specified outdoor places
- Smoking in multi-unit public housing administered by The City of Calgary
- Smoking and vaping in hotel and motel rooms, in outdoor public parks, and at outdoor public events”

Administration is scheduled to report back to Council through the Standing Policy Committee on Community and Protective Services with recommendations and potential bylaw amendments in late 2019.

## Engagement overview

Stakeholder workshops were held to facilitate targeted conversations with key stakeholders regarding potential increased restrictions to The City’s Smoking and Vaping Bylaw and the resulting policy implications and regulations. Stakeholders attending the workshop participated in a modified world café format where they had the opportunity to provide feedback on a series of questions through small group table discussions and to learn about other stakeholders’ varying perspectives. Stakeholder groups included business owners/operators, business organizations, educational institutions, festival and event organizers, and health and regulatory agencies. Participation was limited to two representatives from each stakeholder organization external to The City of Calgary.



Three stakeholder workshops were held over the afternoons and evening of June 17 to June 18, 2019. There were 35 participants that attended the workshops: ten at the June 17 afternoon session, 12 at the June 17 evening session and 13 at the June 18 afternoon session.

## What we asked

The following questions were asked during the stakeholder workshops to collect feedback on smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in workplaces, restaurants, public premises, specified outdoor locations, hotels and motel rooms, outdoor public parks, events and pathways.



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

## TOPIC: Workplaces, Restaurants, Public Premises and Specified Outdoor Locations

1. The direction received from Council is to consider increasing restrictions on smoking and vaping with specific consideration given to prohibiting waterpipe use in workplaces, restaurants, public premises and specified outdoor locations. Do you agree with this direction for Calgary? Why or why not?
2. Tell us more about how potential changes to smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in workplaces, restaurants, public premises and specified outdoor locations may impact you or your business or organization.
3. Should waterpipe smoking be subject to the same regulations as smoking or vaping in Calgary? (i.e. 5m from a doorway, not on transit property, etc.)
4. What other regulations or restrictions to smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in workplaces, restaurants, public premises and specified outdoor locations should we consider?

## TOPIC: Hotel and Motel Rooms

1. The direction received from Council is to consider increasing restrictions on smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in hotel and motel rooms. Do you agree with this direction for Calgary? Why or why not?
2. Tell us more about how potential changes to smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in hotel and motel rooms may impact you or your business or organization.
3. Should we consider other types of restrictions or regulations to smoking, vaping or waterpipe use in hotel and motel rooms? If so, what?

## TOPIC: Outdoor Public Parks, Events and Pathways

1. The direction received from Council is to consider increasing restrictions on smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in outdoor public parks, at events and on pathways. Do you agree with this direction for Calgary? Why or why not?
2. Tell us more about how potential changes to smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in outdoor public parks, at events and on pathways may impact you or your business or organization.
3. Should we consider other types of restrictions or regulations to smoking, vaping or waterpipe use in outdoor public parks, at events and on pathways? If so, what?

## What we heard

Overall, there was a mixed level of support from different types of stakeholders for the complete prohibition of waterpipe use in restaurants and workplaces. Most shisha lounge owners/operators were not in favour of a complete prohibition of waterpipe use due to the impacts to their businesses, employees, social opportunities and culture. Most Shisha Lounge owners/operators were in favour of increasing restrictions and regulations in order to offer a healthier, safer place where shisha users can choose to go. Most public health agency stakeholders were in strong support for a complete prohibition of waterpipe use in restaurants and workplaces. There was some concern about the impact of second-hand smoke from shisha consumption to vulnerable populations (e.g. youth, new immigrants) that may not fully know their individual rights or feel empowered to voice their refusal to work in an unsafe environment. Some participants



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

indicated that a combination of policy, enforcement, education and increased safety measures by businesses (e.g. improved HVAC systems) must all take place in order to reduce health impacts.

There was support for strong restrictions and enforcement regarding smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in hotel and motel rooms and that a designated outdoor area should be provided for smoking, vaping and waterpipe use.

There was support for strengthening restrictions on smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in outdoor public parks, events and pathways and that prohibiting smoking in public areas where children may be (e.g. parks, pathways, playgrounds, etc.) should be considered. It was indicated that designated smoking areas at events should also be visually separated, and away from designated cannabis and alcohol consumption areas.

- For a detailed summary of the input that was provided, please see the [Summary of Input](#) section.
- For a verbatim listing of all the input that was provided, please see the [Verbatim Responses](#) section.

## Next steps

- Report back to Calgarians on what we heard and what we did in late 2019.
- Stakeholder and public feedback will help City Administration develop the recommendations to be presented to Council in Q4 of 2019.



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

## Summary of Input

TOPIC: Workplaces, Restaurants, Public Premises and Specified Outdoor Locations

<p>Banning Shisha Consumption</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants’ opinions were mixed about a complete prohibition of waterpipe use in restaurants and workplaces. Public health agency stakeholders were in favour of prohibition of waterpipe use, whereas most shisha lounge owners/operators and other business operators were in favour of strengthening restrictions and regulations rather than a complete ban.</li> <li>• Participants were in support of age restrictions, improved ventilation systems and increased regulations for shisha lounges.</li> </ul>
<p>Financial Impacts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants expressed concerns about banning shisha and the significant impacts to shisha lounge owners in terms of losing their business, investments they have made to upgrade ventilation systems, staff losing their jobs and the cultural and social impacts.</li> <li>• Shisha lounge owners/operators were concerned about how they would be compensated for their investments to upgrade their ventilation systems as requested by The City in January 2019.</li> </ul>
<p>Vulnerable Populations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants were concerned about the impact of smoking, vaping and waterpipe use to vulnerable populations (e.g. youth, new immigrants) that may not fully know their individual rights or feel empowered to voice their refusal to work in an unsafe environment.</li> </ul>
<p>Policy and Enforcement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants indicated that policy, enforcement, and education need to work together. Start on problem areas, health impacts, where people can/can’t smoke, vape, etc. Once policy starts to change, then social norms will help to reduce smoking.</li> <li>• Some participants indicated that tobacco, vape and shisha should be regulated separately.</li> </ul>
<p>Health Concerns</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants expressed the need to focus on forcing workplaces, restaurants, etc. to make their environments healthy for staff rather than the staff being responsible for the healthy environment or being put at risk.</li> <li>• Participants expressed concerns about health impacts of shisha in workplaces/shisha lounges on workers and patrons.</li> <li>• Several scientific facts were provided by stakeholders to highlight the negative health impacts of shisha and to demonstrate the high level of concern for those who consume it or those exposed to it second-hand. Despite the scientific facts shared, some participants felt that smoking shisha was not as detrimental to your health as stated by health professionals.</li> <li>• Some participants indicated that shisha establishments offer a safer environment to operate hookah pipes vs. other places that may have a higher potential for misuse, poor cleaning practices and exposure to minors.</li> </ul>
<p>Designated Areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants indicated the need to consider providing designated smoking areas in order to prevent smoking in non-appropriate areas where there is greater risk for fire and inappropriate disposal. Also designated areas can reduce exposure of second-hand smoke to children and to people who choose not to smoke.</li> </ul>



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

Community Gathering Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants indicated that shisha lounges are important in providing opportunities for sober social gathering areas where you can connect with others from the community.</li> <li>Participants expressed concerns about the impact of banning shisha on business, culture, and social opportunities. They were also concerned that banning will encourage shisha in homes or other places around children and non-smokers and people may be at higher risk to get involved with alcohol or get into trouble.</li> <li>Participants indicated that shisha lounges create a sense of community and connection and that consuming shisha reduces stress.</li> <li>Some participants indicated that it was equally important to consider the social and cultural uses of shisha while also considering public health.</li> </ul>
----------------------------	---

## TOPIC: Hotel and Motel Rooms

Strengthening Restrictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overall, participants were in support of strong restrictions to smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in hotel and motel rooms and indicated that Calgary may be behind on total bans in hotel and motel rooms versus other major cities.</li> </ul>
Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants felt that there needs to be better enforcement on smoking on the premises at hotels and motels.</li> </ul>
Designated Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants indicated that designated smoking areas need to be provided so people don't smoke elsewhere in non-appropriate areas.</li> <li>Participants also indicated that designated smoking areas should be placed away from windows, doorways, air intake systems and where children may be.</li> </ul>

## TOPIC: Outdoor Public Parks, Events and Pathways

Strengthening Restrictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants were generally in support of strengthening restrictions on smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in outdoor public parks, events and pathways. However, some participants didn't see an issue with smoking outside as long as it wasn't around children.</li> <li>Participants indicated that signage should be placed to indicate where designated areas are located in parks and at events.</li> <li>There was some confusion about why cannabis use was allowed in areas where smoking, vaping and water pipe use was not.</li> </ul>
Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants suggested that there should be consideration for prohibiting smoking in all public areas where children may be (i.e. parks, paths, playgrounds, etc.).</li> <li>Participants indicated that they were concerned about the potential of modelling behaviour with children being able to see the smoking activities.</li> </ul>
Clear Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants indicated that there needs to be clear definitions of parks in the bylaw that clearly demonstrate where anyone can go without restrictions (children, pets, adults, etc.).</li> </ul>
Designated Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants felt that designated smoking areas at events should be provided and that they be visually separated, and away from designated cannabis and alcohol consumption areas.</li> </ul>



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

Fire Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participants felt that it is important to investigate the number of fires / grass fires that occur in parks to establish whether they were contributed to by smoking, vaping and/or waterpipe use.</li></ul>
-------------	--



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

## Verbatim Comments: Workshop # 1 June 17, 2019 from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Following is a record of the feedback captured during the workshop.

**Please note:** *Personally identifiable information, as well as any portions of comments not in compliance with the City's Respectful Workplace policy are removed from participant submissions; however, the intent of the submissions remain.*

### Workshop Table Discussions

**TOPIC:** *Workplaces, Restaurants, Public Premises and Specified Outdoor Locations*

#### Table 1

- Proposed restrictions are a natural progress
- I would be in support of strengthening the bylaws
- It is important to reduce second-hand exposure and the effects on children / youth
- These restrictions would align more closely with Calgary Board of Education regulations
- Would be interested to know the metrics on how often smoking-permitted rooms are requested
- First hand observation of shisha preparation shows it is a messy operation
- There are travelling shisha sales at venues that may not have proper HVAC and ventilation
- Concern was expressed about the availability to and interest in shisha by younger people
- How would these restrictions relate to medical use of cannabis?
- At Heritage Park, going smoke-free resulted in people hiding smoking, so the park designated smoking areas to help control this, resulting in less litter and lowering the potential for smoking-related incidents.
- Some current restrictions are not adhered to (e.g. HVAC not operating), resulting in unhealthy (smoke-filled) venues
- A challenge in Calgary is the lack of a specific business license for these uses (shisha)
- HVAC does not necessarily mitigate the dangers of carcinogens
- If shisha is mixed with tobacco, then tobacco restrictions would presumably apply; however, it is difficult to know / test what is in shisha on the spot
- Shisha should be treated the same as tobacco
- If restrictions were applied to Municipal Reserve (MR) lands, it would help schools to keep a buffer from smoking, vaping and waterpipe use near them
- Provide more clarity around enforcement in order to ensure restrictions have teeth
- Part of effective mitigation of smoking, vaping and waterpipe use is an educational / public awareness component
- It also takes time for societal norms to evolve and for people to understand the risks involved
- Educational initiatives could take the favour of public scale advertising, classroom education, role models at home
- Unlike tobacco products, shisha is not taxed and this makes it affordable and attractive



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

- Many individuals who work in venues where shisha is used may not be fully aware of their rights or the risks they are exposed to
- Does The City work with the Bridge Organisation (or similar) to inform immigrants of their rights (occupational health and safety)
- Workers in shisha lounges and vulnerable populations may not be protected from inequities or the impacts of exposure; it is also a concern about the behavioural / modelling exposure to children
- Large population health costs are higher than individual business costs
- Education / awareness / clear language
- People may find loopholes (electronic waterpipe usage)
- Health-wise, electronic waterpipes are better but still harmful and may not prevent nicotine exposure
- No smoking in parks that have children's amenities
- Change environment – better for all
- Reduce health inequalities
- Protect youth from exposure
- Seeing adults smoking normalizes the behaviour for children
- Economic costs of few businesses vs societal costs
- Vaping – increase usage in youth public health crisis
- Workers in shisha bars aren't protected
- Treat businesses consistently
- A complete prohibition of smoking, vaping and waterpipe use would have little impact on outdoor festivals; however, clarity about restrictions and designated areas is necessary
- Education of health impacts / cost to individual
- Hard to enforce distance due to placement of ashtrays
- Smoking on transit property is not currently enforced well
- Education / signage should be installed on transit property
- Waterpipe use should have the same restrictions as smoking / vaping
- Consistent / simple messaging
- Block view of smoking (behind wall)
- With regards to waterpipes in workplaces:
  - There is no acceptable level of consumption (Public Health perspective)
  - There needs to be protection for children / workers
  - Already contradictory regulation
- Workers are exposed which can impact their health
- Cannabis businesses want to use hookah loophole to have smoking lounges
- There needs to be a cost benefit analysis for changing the bylaw
- With regards to waterpipe e-cigarettes
  - Still considered smoking
  - Electronic smoking is clearly outlined in Vancouver bylaw and should be in Calgary's bylaw
  - Need robust definition





- Less harmful but not harmless
- Need clear language / no grey areas
- Hard to enforce; laws need to be clear, easy to understand and easy to enforce
- Keep messaging clear, concise and easy to understand. Messaging should include blanket statements about smoking, vaping and waterpipe use, learned behaviours and the affects of exposure to smoking, vaping and waterpipe.

## Table 2

- From a health perspective, with regards to exposure to smoking, vaping and waterpipe use:
  - There is no healthy level of indoor exposure.
  - Prohibiting indoor smoking protects children and employees who may be in an establishment
- There seems to be contradictory restrictions on smoking and vaping
- In Edmonton, it is a matter of when the legislation will be passed; not if
- Unproclaimed section in Act refers to tobacco products (2013)
- Some participants had not noticed waterpipe use was an issue
- Shisha is the second leading product consumed by Alberta's youth
- There is support for implementing further restrictions on indoor waterpipe use
- Like the Vancouver bylaw example: It clearly defines anything that is smoked is harmful – it does not restrict certain products, but is a blanket ban listed in their bylaw
- Population health perspective is to make the overall environment better for everyone
- With regards to overall health outcomes, the goal is to reduce inequities and provide healthier environments for the greater population
- There is no safe exposure to smoke (e.g. workers in shisha lounges are exposed to second-hand smoke)
- Vulnerable populations are at risk (workers, youth, etc.)
- Exposure to children – when children observe adults consuming shisha it normalizes the behaviour to them
- Tobacco costs billions per year and Albertans are bearing that cost
- There needs to be more reduction in health-related tobacco costs
- The number of children smoking has tripled in the last few years
- There is a public health crisis with the increase in vaping (e.g. in schools)
- Education and awareness are positive drivers but more action is needed with further restrictions
- There should be a level playing field; apply the same approach to all types of smoking. Consistency is needed
- Also has implications to alcohol – money spent on health care
  - People have an awareness of smoking at outdoor events, based on clarity up front of what patrons should expect



- People are on board with strengthening the bylaw because of the harmful effects of smoking. It is important to share messaging on harmful effects and the cost these effects have on health and public health care.
- Restrictions regarding not smoking within 5m and 7m of a doorway, yet ashtrays are placed right outside entry. What can be done? Edmonton example of distance restrictions.
- Issue on transit (at LRT station by Bow Valley College); have not witnessed much policing. Suggestion for better signage / notices and education.
- May not be evident that shisha smoking is common but statistics show it is the second most popular smoking item by youth
- There should be smoking distances in place for waterpipes
- Consistent messaging and simplicity for understanding
- Make smoking distances the same as the current legislation (for consistency)
- Use partitions with a wall to restrict view of smoking in order to prevent learned behaviour
- Closing loopholes, e.g. waterpipes can be made to look like a vape pipe or modified pipe
- Harm is significantly lower with an electronic pipe, but not harm free
- Since electronic waterpipes are clearly stated in Vancouver's bylaw, and also came up through the engagement process for changes to Edmonton's bylaw, should it be included as part of changes to Calgary's bylaw too?
- Edmonton parks with children's amenities have no smoking, should be the same in Calgary

## TOPIC: Hotel and Motel Rooms

### Table 1

- No routine inspections of hotels and motels for unpermitted use
- Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) does not monitor smoking in rooms unless there is a complaint
- There is support to prohibit smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in hotel and motel rooms – science shows there is a risk to second- and third-hand exposure; therefore, employees are at risk, non-smokers are still impacted despite HVAC and other mitigation efforts
- Reality is people will try to smoke where they can, so designated permitted areas are useful
- There is an increasing stigma in going to designated areas which actually plays a role in limiting use
- Many other municipalities have banned smoking in hotels and motels and this has worked
- There are economic advantages to this (reduce cleaning costs, damage, fires, etc.)
- Studies show majority of people agree smoke-free multi-unit structures are a more sound investment due to reduced risks to property (theoretically this could be applied to views on smoke-free hotels and motels)
- Designated areas need to be located properly (not near windows or air intakes)
- Workers in hotels and motels are being exposed to adverse health effects from smoking-allowed units and are being targeted in this respect. They may not speak up due to risk to employment status.



- Hotels and motels should not be a loop-hole scenario where workers are at risk when they would not be in any other work setting
- Vulnerable populations are often staffed in hotels and motels and these workers need to be educated / empowered:
  - Made aware of their rights in these respects (Bill 30) Section 31
  - A right to refuse unsafe employment settings
- Blanket restrictions across all vaping / smoking / waterpipes is a fair approach
- Exposure to patrons in other rooms can still happen through ventilation systems as is does not prevent second-hand smoke from going into other rooms
- Fire concerns with falling asleep with lit cigarettes
- Blanket restrictions – is there a need? Most hotels and motels are already smoke-free
- Need to consider third-hand smoke also
- Contradictory to WHIMIS regulation
  - Right to refuse work
- Shouldn't impact businesses
- Some other municipalities have already completely banned smoking, vaping in hotel and motels

## Table 2

- Prohibiting smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in hotels and motels may be a non issue; how many smoking rooms remain unreserved?
- Smoking should be restricted across the board / support blanket restrictions
- Ventilation systems do not prevent smoke from migrating to other rooms.
- Exposure to vulnerable populations (e.g. cleaning staff)
  - Inequity issues (e.g. majority of cleaning staff are female)
  - Employees have the right to refuse working in unsafe environments but there can be issues in doing so
- Blanket restrictions create level playing field for everyone
- Potential of safety issues as unattended cigarettes can cause fires (e.g. cigarettes left on couches)
  - Fatalities usually occur when people are asleep
- Camrose, Okotoks, Sylvan Lake, Airdrie, Canmore are examples of Marriot Hotel locations that prohibit smoking in rooms
- If there is any pushback, people will eventually adapt to change
- For ease of enforcement, blanket restrictions should be implemented across the board to cover all forms of smoking, including vaping, electronic cigarettes and waterpipes
- Concerned about exposure to toxicity from second- and third-hand smoke
- Make it easy and simple to understand
- The logistics of using a waterpipe in a hotel or motel room would be quite difficult, it would also produce a lot of smoke and require the use of charcoal, etc.
- Other municipalities use a blanket bylaw to cover all forms of smoking and have less confusion about what is allowed or not allowed



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

- The bylaw needs to be clear when defining or detailing the difference between heating and burning and clearly state the health impacts of each method of consumption

## TOPIC: Outdoor Public Parks, Events and Pathways

### Table 1

- How would you impose these restrictions on pathways?
- Example – in Okotoks smokers are required to create a spatial buffer when children are near
- I would like to see larger buffers established
- Many events have designated smoking areas
- Some are better than others
- Need to be kept away from youth – both for exposure risk and to not normalize the behaviour (in their eyes)
- Visual separation is as important as exposure set back
- Parks and pathways are often highly utilized by children
  - Playgrounds
  - Children – allowing smoking increases their exposure in these settings
- Enforcement is important, cultural norm understanding is also vital to reducing tobacco use / smoking
- More awareness is needed about how vaping companies are targeting youth so it can be reduced.
- Policy is starting point, social norms follow
- If rules are not understood, enforcement and compliance will be difficult
- There is a learning curve with respect to rules and also what they apply to (tobacco / tobacco and cannabis / shisha and tobacco, etc.)
- Easiest would be to group them as one category
- Challenge to this idea is cannabis is intoxicant. Allowing a designated area (like smoking) could open door to public alcohol use, etc.
- Why is public cannabis consumption not being considered?
- The importance of smoke / tobacco to First Nations people is something to be considered and made clear
- City is focussing on commercial use – as opposed to traditional use
- What defines a pathway? Needs to be made clear. What if the pathway is the only option for a smoker?
- Schools are responsible for children while in class and on breaks, this includes while on pathways to and from the school; therefore, the definition of pathway will need to be clear.
- The emphasis needs to be placed on identified areas where non-smokers' rights are being imposed upon
- Does The City track / identify "hot spots" for smoking
  - Perhaps based on complaints in certain areas
  - Generally not until triggered by a major event (fire)



- Enforcement – how is it carried out?
- 311 does track a lot of complaint info (noise complaints for instance)
- Outdoor festivals:
  - Restricted area for vaping and smoking
  - There needs to be clear definitions in plain language in Calgary’s bylaw, like Vancouver’s bylaw.
- Create blanket restrictions in parks / pathways (all public access)
- Need to create safe spaces
- Consider outdoor markets / outdoor events / Municipal Reserve (MR) adjacent to schools
- People don’t have a say if people are smoking or not at events (don’t have a choice)
- Events that have clearly defined restricted areas for smoking and vaping are easily avoided by non-smokers
- Heritage Park has designated areas which work well to reduce smoking in non-designated areas and reduces the concern about preventable fires caused by improper disposal of cigarettes.
- Enforcement is key, but hard to do.
- Schools are considered as part of the Municipal Reserve and smoking should be banned adjacent to schools in all municipal reserves.
- Best practices for where to smoke
- Do people have a choice when they come to park regardless of children’s amenities
- Safe space for all
- Off leash parks should be considered for prohibiting smoking, vaping and waterpipe use – concerns for health of humans and animals
- Should be restricted regardless of children’s amenities
- Consider restrictions for all parks and pathways
  - All public access
- Consideration for outdoor markets and community markets
- Consider all outdoor events / markets
- Should prohibition of smoking, vaping and waterpipe use also be considered for Calgary beaches, including private lake communities?
- Designate smoking area
  - Receptacles
  - Hide behaviour
  - Clearly marked signage

**Table 2**

- Anytime the public is outdoors, we do not have a choice to participate or not in smoking. It is not fair when that choice is taken from us
- Heritage Park has designated smoking areas (there is signage that clearly identifies these spaces as smoking permitted areas)
- How do you ensure enforcement to make sure people are following the rules? (



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

- Edmonton has a ban on smoking in parks that have children's facilities
- Some places have a complete ban on smoking in parks (e.g. Cold Lake)
- The bylaw should have a blanket ban on smoking in parks adjacent to e.g. schools, other children's amenities
- Total restrictions should be placed in public parks and pathways
- If smoking is permitted in certain areas of a park, the designated areas should be clearly marked and have receptacles
- A ban on smoking in parks should not be based on whether it has children's amenities exclusively as parks bring in not only children and families but the general public who may not wish to be exposed to the harmful effects of smoking
- Need to create safe spaces for everyone
- There should be more information and clarification on smoking in dog parks and whether restrictions are similar to other park spaces
- Consider a complete ban of smoking, vaping and waterpipe use for outdoor markets (e.g. farmers markets, night markets).



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

## Feedback Forms

### About The City of Calgary Smoking and Vaping Bylaw 23M2018

1. **Do you have any additional feedback you would like to share about smoking, vaping or waterpipe use in workplaces, restaurants, public premises and specified outdoor locations?**
  - No smoking in any public places – air quality concerns, OHS concerns, encouraging youth to smoke. More difficult to deal with existing businesses.
  - Ban smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in all workplaces, restaurants and public premises.
  - The current situation with a lack of regulation at municipal or provincial levels has resulted in shisha being a growing issue with more facilities bringing in waterpipes.
  - Population health perspectives emphasises the importance of improving health outcomes and reducing inequities. People should not be exposed to the harms of these products.
  
2. **If smoking, vaping and waterpipe use is prohibited in workplaces, restaurants, public premises and specified outdoor locations, what is an appropriate timeframe for this?**

x5	6 to 12 months	x2	1 to 2 years	x1	2 to 5 years
----	----------------	----	--------------	----	--------------

Comments:

- They've known this may be coming since 2013
3. **Do you have any additional feedback you would like to share about smoking, vaping or waterpipe use in hotel and motel rooms?**
    - It should be simple to stop smoking in hotel rooms. Designated smoking areas outside to make the move easier.
    - Ban completely. This is already standard practice in other jurisdictions and will protect other vulnerable workers in these workplaces.
    - Hotel staff should not be exposed – they should have the same rights as any other workplace. The loop hole should close.
  
  4. **If smoking, vaping and waterpipe use is prohibited in hotel and motel rooms, what is an appropriate timeframe for this?**

x6	6 to 12 months	x1	1 to 2 years	x1	2 to 5 years
----	----------------	----	--------------	----	--------------

Comments

- 7 years for culture to change



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

**5. Do you have any additional feedback you would like to share about smoking, vaping or waterpipe use in outdoor parks, events and pathways?**

- There is no safe amount of tobacco or tobacco like substance. Tobacco costs Alberta taxpayers billions each year. We need to address these costs to save taxpayers money.
- The potential fire risk from discarded smoking materials is an issue.
- Youth are vulnerable and should not be exposed because it normalizes smoking behaviour. Changing the environment through policy is important and impactful.

**6. If smoking, vaping and waterpipe use is prohibited in outdoor parks, events and pathways, what is an appropriate timeframe for this?**

x5	6 to 12 months	x1	1 to 2 years	x2	2 to 5 years
----	----------------	----	--------------	----	--------------

Comments:

- 7 years for culture to change





# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

## Verbatim Comments: Workshop # 2 June 17, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Following is a record of the feedback captured during the workshop.

**Please note:** *Personally identifiable information, as well as any portions of comments not in compliance with the City's Respectful Workplace policy are removed from participant submissions; however, the intent of the submissions remain.*

### Workshop Table Discussions

**TOPIC:** *Workplaces, Restaurants, Public Premises and Specified Outdoor Locations*

#### Table 1

- Some participants agree in part to ban shisha in workplaces, but not in restaurants that specifically serve shisha
- There is concern that there will be more vaping if shisha is banned
- Shisha employees agree to work in a shisha establishment; therefore, they provide consent to be exposed to smoke
- People go into our restaurants specifically for shisha
- We are not imposing our products on people, they come into the establishment knowingly, shisha is not pushed or advertised on social media, etc.
- According to shisha lounge owners and patrons, shisha and vaping should not be put in the same category (business owner comment)
- We do not consume alcohol – shisha is our outlet, a place to socialize, get together with friends, community gathering/building.
- Yes, I agree that there are health concerns, but it is not at the same level/category as car fumes
- Shisha is a big part and aspect of our social lives; helps with anxiety (business owner comment)
- Everyone that goes into a shisha bar gives their consent to being there. People come in for shisha, not just food.
- I do not want to be classified as a restaurant; there should be a separate provision for a shisha business licences.
- Shisha bars are places to hang out, make friends and network
- Some participants have been smoking shisha for years as a cultural practise
- One gets exposed to different cultures at shisha lounges. Our shisha lounge brings in different people from all over; it is a calm environment; what “nightlife” looks like for me. If you take shisha away, what are the alternatives?
- Would be very upsetting if it is banned; a lot of people would be very disappointed.
- If shisha is banned, there would be loss of jobs, business, social gatherings; what would be an alternative and safer than smoking cigarettes?
- In Arabic it is referred to as “drinking shisha”, not smoking shisha.
- No minors are allowed in our establishment
- There are both alcoholic and non-alcoholic establishments
- Everything should be regulated (e.g. liquor licences)



- What's going to happen to us if we shut down our shisha business?
- 70-80% of our business is shisha and we run a non-alcoholic establishment
- The City required upgrades to the HVAC ventilation system from 30cfm to 60cfm based.
- Exposure to hookah and shisha is the same as exposure to cigars and cigarettes (concern from public health perspective is that there is no safe exposure.
- Concerned for vulnerable populations, such as workers in shisha establishments, children exposed to second-hand smoke.
- Studies show that there are no safe levels of exposure to smoking
- Burning anything, such as shisha, is carcinogenic and it produce harmful toxins
- If we control public places and regulate smoking, how do we control users at home and exposure to second-hand smoke?
- Exposure to children and pregnant women is harmful
- How did we get around cannabis consumption/legalization?
- How can we change the environment? Make it a healthier environment for everyone?
- There is a concern for workers in shisha establishments (public health)
- There is the health of the population at large which is a human rights perspective. It is important to protect and limit their exposure to smoke.
- How do we change? Waterpipe use is unhealthy; these have been banned in other provinces and it is a growing trend.
- There is the importance of community while creating a safer environment for all.
- Increase regulations to make shisha bars healthier – will make them maintain their standards (business owner comment)
- Mental health issues could arise
- Religiously we cannot consume alcohol
- Huge cultural factor; shisha is a big part of some peoples lives
- A ban will not benefit The City
- Main concern with the use of a waterpipe is the residual effects of the burning charcoal to smoke the shisha
- The Tobacco Reduction Act 2008 was a big step in public health
- Make shisha consumption as safe as possible and require shisha lounges to have a shisha specific business license and install proper signage
- Education of shisha facts and health impacts are important to allow users to make a responsible choice to use it or not use it
- Confusion as to why The City is doing this now after requiring expensive ventilation upgrades
- Our business sales are predominantly from shisha; a complete ban would have big financial impacts which would lead to a loss of businesses
- Landlords, The City, business owners and lease holders all have high financial investments to lose if a complete ban on shisha goes forward. There will also be a lot of shisha lounge employees across the city that will lose jobs.



- Timing for this is wrong with current economic environment
- The City requested upgrades to HVAC systems in shisha lounges
- A ban would have both business impacts and personal impacts
- Worried about the economy – where will people work?
- Why would The City allow us to spend money for hookah if they knew there would be ban?
- These establishments are social places to enjoy shisha and food
- Alternative to people that want to socialize without alcohol
- The City should spend more time on substances that inhibit the body
- Age should be increased to 21+ for all substances
- No additive properties in shisha
- Shisha business owners are not supportive of a ban but are willing to adhere to increased restrictions and regulations
- If a ban is implemented, the timeline should be at least ten years for businesses to recoup costs
- Pub owners are adding shisha to the menu – limited licence/shisha establishments, require specific locations that add shisha to install HVAC/make-up air units
- Why are the same health concerns not discussed with alcohol?
- Educational approach is important
- Freedom of an educated choice; shisha should not be banned
- Shisha business licence should include ventilation standards and best practises.
- Workplaces, restaurants, public premises could have specified outdoor spaces

## Table 2

- Customers go to shisha lounges for shisha itself; not food, so prohibiting waterpipe use will contribute to a loss of customers and now these businesses will have to compete with others. There are significant impacts to banning waterpipe use and shisha that will destroy business for shisha lounge owners/operators.
- Won't be able to change business and will have to close
- Many people affected (leases/lose houses for owners), staff will lose jobs, The City will lose taxes, not a time to do this considering economy, spent a lot of money already for The City requirements, kill businesses
- Loss of income tax to government
- Business owners have mortgages to pay
- Shisha lounge owners / operators have invested a lot of personal money in their businesses
- Prohibiting waterpipe use and shisha will result in shutting down businesses. This has major impacts.
- Most shisha lounges don't use tobacco, they use herbal shisha that does not contain tobacco
- There is currently provincial legislation on tobacco products, but no legislation on herbal products



- Wasn't aware of the potential change to provincial legislation. Shisha lounge owners/operators continue to be asked by The City to upgrade ventilation systems without any mention of possible changes that may prohibit waterpipe use.
- Tobacco might still be in herbal products
- Children/youth not permitted; businesses are making their own rules for age prohibition
- The cultural-social aspect of waterpipe use and smoking shisha are important factors to consider
- Alcohol is not served in some shisha lounges
- Shisha lounges are an alternative for young people to be sober and still be social
- Proactively protecting patrons from risk of starting a fire by having staff manage charcoal, not the patrons.
- Air quality testing done by The City
- Consider a different minimum age – increase restrictions to 21
- Main business target is over 25
- Younger people are starting to smoke, the younger they start, the harder it is to stop behaviour
- Government allows cannabis, should be focussed more on harm to the health of the consumer
- Increasing the age is okay, the age for alcohol consumption should be also increased
- May not be feasible for waterpipe use to be same as smoking and vaping
- No odours if smoking shisha (e.g. on clothes)
- Users do not get addicted to shisha
- Determine whether tobacco is in shisha products based on packaging (if there is tobacco in shisha, customs would charge taxes on the products)
- Same company can supply both tobacco and non-tobacco
- Potentially regulate shisha supply
- Requires a long time to phase out waterpipe use and shisha in order to recoup what has been invested in the shisha lounges. Food alone will not be able to sustain business
- Other businesses are adding shisha to expand, survive and attract more customers
- Currently there are no business licences specific for serving shisha, but further regulations (ventilation) are required where it is known that shisha is being served or The City will shut down the business.
- Ten lounges that only serve shisha in Calgary, the rest also provide food, beverages, alcohol, etc. along with shisha
- Reasons to only serve food and shisha, and to avoid serving alcohol in shisha lounges:
  - Less violence
  - Bad to mix shisha and alcohol
  - Better alternative than alcohol
  - Better for young adults to be social
  - Big part of culture for some young adults (East Indian/African)
  - Alcohol has a higher incidence of harm/risk with use – why not have the same conversations about alcohol that are being had about shisha? People can pass out from overusing alcohol



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

- Alcohol has been more regulated
- Minimize the number of bars in one location
- Consider restricting operating hours
- Increased awareness for shisha lounge patrons of potential health risks
- Education component of shisha effects will be important
- Studies show impacts of both tobacco/non-tobacco products
- Vaping is not allowed in shisha bars
- Air quality requirements are defined by maximum number of seats vs. number of pipes in use
- We have installed sensors for air quality and levels of smoke because running the ventilation system at full capacity all the time would be costly
- The City is holding businesses to the same standard and shutting down those that don't meet those standards
- Nightclub/existing businesses should require a business licence, there should be an additional category for shisha lounge business licences
- Potential opportunity for education to show effects of smoking shisha similar to alcohol/tobacco
- Limit the number of shisha lounges through business licence process
- Smoky atmospheres add to the shisha experience, but it is not possible to achieve with the City-required ventilation systems installed in shisha lounges

## TOPIC: Hotel and Motel Rooms

### Table 1

- Do not support smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in hotel and motel rooms as there is no proper ventilation. In favour of a prohibition of smoking, vaping and waterpipe use in hotel and motel rooms.
- Cannot verify who is at hotel/motel – children and pregnant women can be exposed to second-hand smoking.
- Blanket restrictions should be implemented
- If it is not regulated, then it should not be permitted
- Protect vulnerable, at-risk population by providing safe work places
- Regulations should be in place for prohibiting smoking in hotels and motels

### Table 2

- Ban waterpipe in hotel and motel rooms – can't control if they're using alcohol or other substances along with shisha
- If there is a smoking room, they should be able to smoke (non-smoking rooms are an option)
- Smell stays in room
- Current regulations are fine – no need to change
- Designated smoking room needs proper ventilation or it is not allowed under provincial legislation
- Concerns about exposure to staff cleaning rooms
- No concerns about removing smoking room as long as designated area is available



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

- Certain staff designated for smoking rooms

## TOPIC: Outdoor Public Parks, Events and Pathways

### Table 1

- Waterpipe use should not be categorized with smoking and vaping
- Have some parks that allow smoking, vaping and waterpipe use and some that do not
- Do not want to expose or model behaviour to children
- Don't see "restricted smoking" in parks during brief summer months
- Public events can have designated smoking areas
- It is highly unlikely to see people using waterpipes on pathways
- Agree with restricting smoking where there are youth and children's amenities
- We support strengthening the bylaw, however, a total ban would be a big impact/hit
- Expect a lot of feedback from the public in support of shisha
- Shisha should be allowed in designated areas
- Safe disposal of charcoals and all smoking waste
- Designated areas where it is not exposed to the public or where children can go
- Designated areas in parks with specified areas to dispose
- No smoking around schools or areas adjacent to schools

### Table 2

- Designated areas for smoking/vaping (not complete ban) in outdoor public parks and at events
- Shouldn't limit where people can smoke, vape, or use a waterpipe; just not in areas where children/youth can be exposed
- Outdoor events should have designated area for shisha
- Dispose of charcoal in fire pits
- Ban in areas where youth can see (e.g. parks beside schools, under 18)



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

## Feedback Forms

### About The City of Calgary Smoking and Vaping Bylaw 23M2018

**1. Do you have any additional feedback you would like to share about smoking, vaping or waterpipe use in workplaces, restaurants, public premises and specified outdoor locations?**

- The importance of an educational, awareness campaign on shisha / waterpipe
- Should be banned
- Smoking waterpipe is equal if not more dangerous than tobacco from an evidence-based population health approach. All should be banned in these places through a phased out approach.
- Waterpipes are not classified in the same category. Businesses should be classified as a shisha bar.

**2. If smoking, vaping and waterpipe use is prohibited in workplaces, restaurants, public premises and specified outdoor locations, what is an appropriate timeframe for this?**

x2	6 to 12 months	x1	1 to 2 years	x3	2 to 5 years
----	----------------	----	--------------	----	--------------

Comments:

- 10 years (x2)
- No appropriate timeframe

**3. Do you have any additional feedback you would like to share about smoking, vaping or waterpipe use in hotel and motel rooms?**

- Only in designated rooms
- Designated area
- Should be restricted to protect vulnerable populations including youth and hotel workers

**4. If smoking, vaping and waterpipe use is prohibited in hotel and motel rooms, what is an appropriate timeframe for this?**

x4	6 to 12 months	x0	1 to 2 years	x3	2 to 5 years
----	----------------	----	--------------	----	--------------

**5. Do you have any additional feedback you would like to share about smoking, vaping or waterpipe use in outdoor parks, events and pathways?**

- Only in designated areas
- Smoking in public places can impact youth by normalizing the behaviour as well as expose kids to smoke – there should be clear communication and enforcement.
- Not allowed in parks except designated parks events designated.



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

6. If smoking, vaping and waterpipe use is prohibited in outdoor parks, events and pathways, what is an appropriate timeframe for this?

x2	6 to 12 months	x1	1 to 2 years	x4	2 to 5 years
----	----------------	----	--------------	----	--------------





# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

## Verbatim Comments: Workshop # 3 June 18, 2019 from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Following is a record of the feedback captured during the workshop.

**Please note:** *Personally identifiable information, as well as any portions of comments not in compliance with the City's Respectful Workplace policy are removed from participant submissions; however, the intent of the submissions remain.*

### Workshop Table Discussions

**TOPIC:** *Workplaces, Restaurants, Public Premises and Specified Outdoor Locations*

#### Table 1

- If the question is specific to prohibiting shisha and waterpipe use in workplaces, restaurants, public premises and specified outdoor locations, this will have little impact on outdoor festivals and concerts
- Shisha lounges – customers assume the risk
  - Don't like it, don't go
  - Workplace is a bit different
  - Staff working in these businesses assume that risk
- Concerned at what point does enforcement fall on BOMA members?
  - Where is BOMA's role here?
- Clarity is needed whether hookah lounges can be in the base of buildings with offices/apartments
- Inspectors being very skeptical of businesses having hookah
- Desire for proper ventilation – some businesses not abiding
- Most buildings don't have isolated HVAC
- Alberta Health Services has been involved since 2012
  - Problems for inspectors for health
  - 33 ambulance calls to health establishments
  - Two treatments in pressure chambers
  - Some employees are scared to speak up
  - Supportive of the ban
- Regulations for staff
- Regulations for HVAC
- Don't ban shisha, and regulate HVAC
- Fines should be levied for breach of HVAC limits
- 13 or 18 testers failed requirements and some just upgraded HVAC systems (this direction provided by The City)
- Good operators are being punished
- Find solutions, don't just ban, it needs to be done properly and safely
- Shisha is much cheaper than cigarettes/cannabis
- Shisha used as incense sometimes
- Blanket bans – statistics say they don't work out, 2012



- Large number of young folks using hookah
  - If shisha has tobacco they are more likely to start smoking
- Tolerance is a part of it too
- Rumor that some businesses add nicotine to their shisha – after law was changed to herbal
  - Not illegal – often presented as herbal
- Good operators vs. bad ones – enforcement is key
- Ambulances get called to bars/clubs more than hookah lounges
- Some new Canadians feel comfortable working in that environment
- These establishments employ new Canadians – comfort level
- Ventilation is key
- Still a choice for staff/patrons
- Regulation vs. prohibition
- How do you protect employees?
  - Ventilation on
  - Door open
- Patrons not always Middle Eastern
- Business plays a role in the community
- Weekdays are less busy
- Minors would be allowed with restaurant licence
- Families smoke at home in front of children
- More chemicals are added to cigars vs. shisha
- Tests show some have tobacco and heavy metals
- Product marketed as natural and safe
- Better solutions than charcoal; coconut coals are healthier
- Tobacco shisha is washed, cigarettes are not
- Nicotine level in shisha is much less
- Method used plays important role – if done properly it is not dangerous
- Is this ban all about money? Are cigarette companies responsible?
- Users include medical professionals
- AGLC should be monitoring the safety of these businesses
- Compromise, not ban – regulatory process
- Don't want to shut businesses' doors
- Many landlords don't want it
- Operation regulations for having a kitchen in the establishment is enough to meet City requirements in shisha lounges
- New HVAC
- Good operators shouldn't be punished
- For shisha catering or mobile shisha services, venues must have adequate ventilation (specifically where shisha is advertised at special events or on specific nights of the week).



- Maybe limit hookah per square foot
- What about fog machines? How are they different?
- Vape juice approved for flavouring, not smoking
- Charcoal most dangerous part
- Users need to be informed of proper use
- Proper process on how to use – tolerance plays a role
- Users make a choice – regulation – prohibition doesn't work
- Regular inspections cost The City money
- Licencing can cover these the costs to The City for enforcement and inspections
- Compromise, not prohibition
  - 1/3 of an income from shisha
  - The driver of customers
  - Social environment
  - Brings people together to drink and eat
- Will it go underground? Will never go away
- Limit licenses, block, year, etc.)
- Equal opportunity to enter (not grandfather)
- Responsible use for when in public
- Agree with regulations on shisha away from doorways
- People come for shisha and food and won't come for just food
- Social environment created by shisha
- People will still find a way / place to smoke or go underground
- Vancouver grandfathered it in, and allow new lounges outside of Vancouver
- People who get grandfathered in would love it
- Limiting new lounges or in certain areas can be looked at and limit number of locations
- Methods for heating and placing charcoal to reduce impacts to health
- Training course for shisha lounges
- The City over-regulates everything
- Licensing fees for increased inspections for shisha businesses
- Shisha sales can be regulated by The City
- Fees / restrictions on businesses will ensure good businesses stay and others that don't comply cease to exist
- Limiting number of hookahs you can have per sq./ft. or ventilation to make it safer
- Concerned about fog machine and impacts?
- When you heat something, creates chemical changes
- In comparison, is charcoal worse than shisha itself
  - Combustion is most harmful and a concern
- Only can buy certain shisha products and supplies
- Do we want to shut down more businesses with all the vacant spaces and sluggish economy



- Most restaurants with kitchens have enough ventilation for shisha
- How do you ensure establishment has proper ventilation for travelling hookah? Documents should be required to confirm that ventilation standards have been met
- Tobacco used for shisha, is washed to clean it for use. Used to burn flavoured glycerine
- Unclear about shisha studies, results and how studies were conducted
- Is target on shisha from cigarette companies, health studies – question results of tests.
- Alberta Gaming and Liquor Control (AGLC) or other organization to regulate shisha lounges, inspections, ensuring codes are met
- Shisha is warmed or baked vs. cigarettes are lit or burnt which gives the perception that shisha is less harmful to one's health
- Some shisha has heavy metals and did contain tobacco
- Smoking anything isn't healthy
- Better solutions than charcoal -coconut husks are better option than charcoal
- Charcoal uses quick lights which release carbon monoxide
- Ambiance is to be smoky - some users don't want it to be smoky
- Stand alone building, not impacting
- Mostly only busy on weekends
- Minors are allowed in restaurants where alcohol is served, and there is learned behaviours with alcohol, as there is learned behaviour with smoking, vaping and waterpipe use
- Shisha not portable, smoking / vaping is portable
- Don't believe cigarettes are better than shisha
- Sponsored immigrant who couldn't speak English but was a cook back home and hired him to work there. Was comfortable and could speak with staff
- Mediterranean / Middle Eastern lounges with food and shisha have staff that are comfortable working there, but ventilation needs work.
- 18+ signs, consenting workers, regulations to make it safer
- Concerned about impact of closure on business, jobs
- Surprised smoking rate went up 2015-2017
  - Vaping has an impact on this
- Concerned about children and youth smoking waterpipes / hookah
- Concerned about shisha lounge adding nicotine
  - Aware that one lounge adds nicotine to shisha
- Assume more than 33 ambulances called to just bars vs. shisha lounge
- Sponsored Syrians to work in restaurant / lounge as were comfortable with it
- City directed businesses 5+ months ago to upgrade HVAC and spent \$200K on upgrades
- Very concerned about banning shisha
- Shisha less invasive smell than smoking
- Shisha used in houses to freshen house after cooking
- There was a Bill that would essentially ban shisha in 2013 but it was not proclaimed



- Some shisha establishments aren't using HVAC
- 33 emergency calls to shisha lounges: patrons unconscious 13 times, two carbon monoxide poisonings
- Recent immigrant who was lighting charcoal – has health issues, was he free to choose job?
- Consider regulations around safety / HVAC to make it safer vs. banning
- Concerned about enforcement to members and organization for policing smoking, vaping, shisha
- Concerned about impact of shisha lounges to other attached commercial, business, residential owners / tenants
- Is City enforcing regulations regarding locations and ventilation, etc.?
- No isolated HVAC – always impacts other attached tenants
- Concern about impact to business, investments made
- Only go to hookah lounge for shisha, choice but concerned about impact to workers
- Marketing of cannabis in smoking area – should have choice
- Workers are smokers as well

## Table 2

- Zoo has two designated areas to balance the needs of non-smoking guests and smokers; designated areas facilitate smoke compliance
- I agree with the proposed restrictions, but have not seen waterpipe use at the zoo
- Designated areas act as a control for smoking and vaping
- Evidence shows shisha is unhealthy
- I am for greater restrictions
- These restrictions would affect our business dramatically
- There is a difference between vaping and smoking shisha
- People have the right to make their own choice
- We follow all restrictions and upgraded the HVAC to provide a clean, safe environment (as opposed to smoking at home)
- Quality control, e-learn mechanisms, security and awareness – these are best practices we follow
- We are open to discussing additional best practices
- Health inspections are carried out regularly
- It has been known that legislation was defined that would restrict waterpipe use. It has not been proclaimed
- Based on evidence which indicates that health-related issues with using shisha are on par with using tobacco, shisha is deemed unhealthy. These facts are what we consider from a public health perspective.
- If shisha is permitted, are we opening the theoretical door to allowing smoking (tobacco) in like structures/areas?
- Workers in shisha bars are impacted by second-hand smoke even with HVAC ventilation
- Indicating a timeline for a complete ban is a tough question to answer from a financial standpoint



- Studies where bans have taken place show no economic impact on businesses that identify as shisha. Unknown if this accounts for business closing or changing business model
- We have gone through all the hoops to ensure our business was in compliance and now we are facing these restrictions. This has created a false hope on vitality of business
- Could The City allow a grandfathering clause for existing shisha businesses, should a restriction on the number of establishments get approved?
- People will smoke shisha regardless – we provide a safe, clean location for this
- We see a lot of inspections to ensure we are up to code
- What about second-hand smoke from grills in restaurants?
  - All combustible smoke is a carcinogen; no comment on technicalities – there are behavioural components to smoking, vaping and waterpipe use, which make it unique.
- Shisha use is deeply rooted in various cultures – what is the health agencies' perspective on the cultural impacts of banning shisha? Response: Health organization studies have shown that culturally, shisha use was more geared towards use by older men and the western shisha use has broadened the target audience to females and youth. The health agencies aim to consider traditional cultural use in this matter.
- Shisha is a large part of our culture – strengthens family bonds; taking away this aspect of our culture is significant – counter to ideals of coming to Canada and maintaining the bonds to our culture.
- Health agencies are understanding of cultural importance, but also need to look at the larger picture of public health.
- Difference between commercial and traditional tobacco – health concerns focus on commercial only
- Serving as a place to go for regulars – a prohibition would be a difficult transition
- Monitor of quality and adhering to regulations (e.g. HVAC) are the efforts we make to evaluate the most reasonable and safe environment we can.
- It becomes a question of advantages vs. disadvantages – where does a hazardous impact outweigh cultural importance?
- Taking something away is not a preventive thing – people will do it somewhere else
- From a scientific/population health model, human agency is the least effective approach – drawing policy is the most impactful and sustainable methodology for changing behaviours
- Removal is effective in enhancing environment
- Top preventable death rates are 1. Smoking and 2. Obesity
- People will smoke – designated areas help to accommodate and control this
- Bars did not fold when smoking was banned – cigar lounges did, however, due to focus.
- Health perspective is not to tell people they can't do what they want but looking at public health – where you cannot smoke
- Indoor environment for shisha consumption makes a bigger difference in a city like Calgary with long winters; outdoor consumption is not practical
- 30cfm (law) but as of May 2018 raised to 60 cfm on shisha bars (costs to the installer, businesses and upgrading needed)



- See no problem with City requirements to run a shisha business (e.g. upgrades to 60cfm, weed out the “bad” businesses that do not operate well)
- Carbon monoxide detectors are mandatory
- You can control the carbon monoxide sensor detector
- Frequency of health inspector – six times, 12 times, still better than being shut down
- Parks – if permitted, should follow fire bans; if ban, not going to impact people very much because they will smoke elsewhere; enforcement would be the issue
- Public health perspective – current restriction should increase due to negative growing impacts of vaping and tobacco; to have healthier environments
- Big difference between smoking shisha and smoking
- Shisha is smoked in parks but situated near the consumer – they are not walking around; unlike cigarettes where people are mobile.
- Public health concern - rules should be made all the same for shisha, vaping and tobacco as technology changes/adaptations can make shisha a mobile consumption product – impact on health is at par.

### Table 3

- In order to operate waterpipes safely in shisha lounges, the ventilation system is required by The City (Since January 2019) to have 30 to 60 CFM in order to effectively clear the air.
- Why do they want to make it difficult for people by putting a ban in place?
- Costs business owners money to keep temperature cooler in their establishment
- Installers need to know the rules; CFM requirements have doubled in the past year
- Why would The City make these changes if they wanted to impose a ban?
- Cannabis – federal law downloaded responsibility to Cities
- By comparison cannabis has less of an impact than tobacco (higher risk)
- We put all our money into shisha business
  - 60 to 65% of sales in business are from shisha
  - Struggling to make ends meet – rent payments
  - January 2 – invested in the HVAC (complied with new regulations)
  - No business licence for shisha
- Alberta Building Code requires 60 cfm for businesses that have smoking rooms
  - Every business that has a smoking room has to comply with the Alberta Building Code
- We do not use tobacco products in our business; only herbal shisha
  - Tobacco indoor smoking prohibited (bylaw)
- Adverse health impacts are still there even in herbal shisha smoking
- Main thing that keeps our business open is shisha, it is our prime revenue stream
- Culturally, smoking shisha is very normal
- Shisha is the main draw, everyone that comes to the business smokes shisha





- Anything you smoke contains combustion which has adverse health effects e.g. carbon monoxide exposure
- Health cost is higher and it is preventable
- Igniting the waterpipe still creates a high level of carbon monoxide
- Population Health perspective:
  - Adverse health effects are preventable
  - There is a cost to the health care system and economy
  - Need to do everything we can to prevent chronic disease
  - Prevent behaviour issues in youth (children are using waterpipes and it is increasing)
- Some children are allowed to smoke shisha
- Children may not smoke but they are exposed to second-hand smoke
- There should be a level of health equity for all people; such as vulnerable workers; everyone has a right to a safe work space
- How can we support businesses to move to better models?
  - Looking into other jurisdictions as example
  - Municipalities have already started implementing restrictions and bans – Edmonton is in the process of banning shisha (Update: Edmonton City Council’s community and public services committee agreed on June 26, 2019 to ban shisha smoking in public establishments by July 1, 2020.)
  - Edmonton is taking on a phased approach
  - There is currently no licence for shisha
  - 2013 provincial law (regarding prohibition) has not been proclaimed since the business opened in 2013
  - Business owner did not know about changes
- Big public health concern
- Business owners put signs “if you don’t smoke/like second hand smoke don’t come in”
- Shisha has been around for 2,000 years
- Attributable risk – the more you’re exposed to something, the higher the risk
- Population Health personnel – we want to eliminate modeling behaviour – creating healthy environments for children; a need to alter the environment
- Opened three years ago and complied with all the regulations, made a big investment (15 employees will have to be let go if a ban is implemented– what will happen to us? Who will help?)
- There would be a negative impact to us if a ban is placed and what our next steps will be
- Arab Fest – \$10K for one tent, \$3K selling shisha at the event – shows popularity of product (promotions taking place for July 17)
- There is a big market for shisha – average cost of flavour: \$25, \$3 in US
- Implement a bylaw for shisha, not an outright ban (total ban would be a disaster)
- Suggest changing age limit for herbal shisha
- Improve HVAC – makes it safer for second hand smoke (may minimize impact)





- Study shows that HVAC did not reduce enough harm for exposure to tobacco (when tobacco restrictions took place specifically in smoking rooms)
- Questions on where proof of studies show the impact of exposure
- Exposure to shisha is self-consent; you're aware when you enter the establishment
- Whether shisha is good or bad, I will have to close my business if it is banned
- Suggestion – set level of particulates as HVAC is currently not enough
- Exposure to tobacco increases health care costs, communities, economic costs
- Rent commitment is five years – how do we recover these costs if prohibition is put in place (business is a 400 seater)
- Suggestion to use precedent of other cities that have prohibited/banned shisha (e.g. Toronto, Vancouver, Edmonton)
- The City should purchase the shisha businesses so they can recover their capital cost
- Offer settlements to any impacted businesses if a ban is implemented
- In the event of a ban, there is precedent for compensation from when the federal government bought out tobacco farms with money collected from fines to the tobacco industry

## TOPIC: Hotel and Motel Rooms

### Table 1

- Carbon monoxide detectors never detect it; used many times
- Now have cigarette detectors in hotels
- Hotel alarms are based on heat
- PM2.5 (particulate matters) causes cancer (anything that is combusted)
- Less harmful – not healthy – second hand shisha has adverse health effects
- Want to know if hotels actually have people smoking in them anymore
- Designated rooms for smoking are like having a designated peeing section in pool
- Some chains have full ban on smoking
- Equity issues for the workers – less choice, more women than men in the industry
- Shisha smells leave quickly
- Fire safety is an issue with smoking in hotel and motel rooms
- There are impacts to more rooms than the one being smoked in
- Protection of workers
- Fire safety an issue with smoking in multi-unit housing; concerned about impacts to other rooms and areas of hotel
- Ionizer in room to clear smoke from room
- A lot of large chains are smoke-free
- Some surrounding municipalities already ban smoking and vaping inside hotel and motel rooms
- OK with smoking in designated rooms
- Concerned about health impacts to workers cleaning rooms



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

- Should protect workers – many women and new Calgarians work in hotels and may not be made fully aware of the protections under occupational health and safety standards
- No PM25 detector in hotel and motels
- There are adverse health impacts with shisha
- Agree with banning

## Table 2

- Marriott hotels do not allow smoking; cleaning smoke odor from rooms takes a lot of extra time
- Any ash or evidence of smoking results in a \$250 charge to credit card on file
- Even if you smoke outside and bring that scent in
- Smoke, but do not rent smoking rooms
- I smoke outside and let the smell dissipate before entering
- Sometimes we can smell cannabis in our shisha bar
- Close the loophole for hotel/motel workers being impacted by second hand smoke
- ROI/economic benefits of not having cleaning concerns/costs
- You are venting a room, not your property
- At risk populations may not have the choice despite Bill 30; there can be too many barriers to being able to stand up for their health rights
- Other restrictions – where smoking areas are located should be blocked off, kept away from youth and away from ventilation/entrances/windows
- Two designated areas at the zoo and airport – isolated/hidden, away from entrances/ventilation

## Table 3

- Ban it
- Smoking vs. non-smoking: is there a need today?
- Should be up to the hotel owner if they want to rent out smoking rooms
- Indifferent on what decision The City makes on restrictions
- Would not want separation of children if they were in a non-smoking room and I was in smoking
- OHS concern – workers/housekeeping are exposed to the smoke, particulates

## TOPIC: Outdoor Public Parks, Events and Pathways

### Table 1

- Designated smoking, vaping and waterpipe use areas should be provided in parks that are away from children
- Use common sense and judgement – smoke away from children
- Modelling perspective is a concern (children watch behaviour and mimic)
- Enforcement/messaging – have designated area
- Hookah not exactly portable
- Shisha consumption is more than just smoking – culture



- No designated smoking areas in parks in Edmonton except for special events
- How can you allow for cannabis consumption but not allow cigarettes and shisha?
- Suggestion for designated areas with no children around
- Zoo provides designated smoking areas and this keeps the rest of the grounds cleaner. Prohibition didn't work, easier to control if designated areas are provided (experience little abuse)
- Cleaning is a cost to businesses
- Enforcement in parks and on pathways is tough
- Children don't have a choice; parents make that decision
- Provide adequate signage for designated smoking areas
- Smokers are more respectful and use designated smoking areas
- Beaches should be designated as non-smoking
- Concerned about children experiencing smoking behaviours, created behaviours
- Want to protect vulnerable population from being impacted by smoking, vaping and waterpipe use
- Supportive of not smoking, vaping, or using waterpipes in front of children
- Allow smoking areas at events with ventilation and away from children
- No smoking on pathways; impacts others
- Folk fest – designated cannabis smoking areas?
- There should be designated areas for shisha, not around children
- Zoo allows two designated areas for smoking; too hard to enforce with banning
- Zoo is federally mandated; no smoking near animals, no cannabis
- Designated areas in parks for shisha; not anywhere around children
- OK with banning smoking in parks
- Indifferent about banning vape in parks
- Outdoor areas for shisha better for ventilation
- People who smoke shisha love to go outside, be with family
- Waterpipes are not portable so they cannot be easily moved around as much

## Table 2

- If all ages are allowed at outdoor events and you have a beer garden, you can technically smoke
  - cannot smoke in beer garden, could smoke in general areas unless inspector deems it a patio
  - according to AGLC – if you can drink anywhere on the site, then the entire site becomes non-smoking because of the liquor license
  - consumption is allowed in tobacco areas, but now tobacco and cannabis consumption areas are in shared spaces (have to apply for cannabis license)
  - cannot drink and smoke in the same area or site
- Don't see much harm in smoking; have it in licensed places
- No problem with people smoking in designated smoking areas
- Population Health perspective – exposure to youth, more likely to start smoking when they observe it



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

- Create healthy environments for youth; yes there should be restrictions in these environments.
- Would agree with blanket bans on smoking
- Behavioural economics – least impactful don't smoke (individual behaviour changes), changing environments and policy
- Education does make a difference, but policy change is most effective
- Shifting weight/responsibility away from people and more on industry
- Implementing a phased out approach to bans; with phased out approach on tobacco not working, considering the increase in tobacco consumption. What will work? Vaping has increased in popularity – beyond traditional users (everyone)
- In Europe and Central America, shisha numbers increasing
- Cost recovery on businesses losses
- With current tax rates on businesses, practicality of closing down business does not seem reasonable
- Evidence in Toronto shows little to no impact on businesses when shisha bars closed
- Tend to believe individual business owners on the impacts of banning shisha over studies and trends. If they say there will be an impact on them, there will be one.



# Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Engagement

Stakeholder Workshop Report Back: What We Heard

June 2019

## Feedback Forms

### About The City of Calgary Smoking and Vaping Bylaw 23M2018

1. Do you have any additional feedback you would like to share about smoking, vaping or waterpipe use in workplaces, restaurants, public premises and specified outdoor locations?
  - No comments received
2. If smoking, vaping and waterpipe use is prohibited in workplaces, restaurants, public premises and specified outdoor locations, what is an appropriate timeframe for this?
  - No comments received
3. Do you have any additional feedback you would like to share about smoking, vaping or waterpipe use in hotel and motel rooms?
  - No comments received
4. If smoking, vaping and waterpipe use is prohibited in hotel and motel rooms, what is an appropriate timeframe for this?
  - No comments received
5. Do you have any additional feedback you would like to share about smoking, vaping or waterpipe use in outdoor parks, events and pathways?
  - No comments received
6. If smoking, vaping and waterpipe use is prohibited in outdoor parks, events and pathways, what is an appropriate timeframe for this?
  - No comments received