



Interior Health

March 9, 2015

Ian Wilson
Manager, Parks Services
City of Kelowna
1435 Water Street
Kelowna, BC V1Y 1J4

Dear Mr. Wilson,

On behalf of the Interior Health Medical Health Officers please accept this letter of support for the City of Kelowna to adopt electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) into your current Parks and Public Spaces Bylaw.

On March 15, 2015, the Ministry of Health announced amendments to the Tobacco Control Act for inclusion of e-cigarette legislation. Interior Health supports the City of Kelowna to act immediately and amend bylaw to stop the growing use of e-cigarettes in British Columbia.

Electronic cigarettes are battery-operated devices that resemble regular cigarettes. They consist of a cartridge containing a liquid solution and an atomizer which vaporizes the liquid and creates the appearance of smoke. E-cigarettes containing nicotine are not authorized for sale in Canada, but are readily available.

Concerns about the safety and efficacy of e-cigarettes have prompted Health Canada, the World Health Organization and the US Food and Drug Administration to warn consumers against using them.

E-cigarettes are not appropriate for use in smoke free outdoor environments:

- They may contain toxic substances.
- There are no product safety standards.
- There is no established evidence base that they are an effective quit smoking aid.
- Exposure to e-cigarette vapour may put the health of others at risk.
- Smoking behaviour may become renormalized.
- Marketing that appeals to children and youth (such as chocolate, fruit and ice cream flavours) may encourage young people to try conventional tobacco products.
- E-cigarette use may trigger cravings in youth who are trying to quit smoking.

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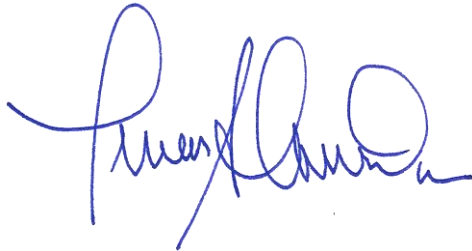
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Mr. Ian Wilson
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Effective tobacco cessation aids are available. Anyone who wants to quit smoking should speak to their doctor or pharmacist, or visit quitnow.ca.

We commend the City of Kelowna for taking swift action to adopt e-cigarette prohibition into existing bylaw.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Trevor Corneil". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "C".

Dr. Trevor Corneil, FRCPC
Acting Chief Medical Health Officer

TC/lw