



A Message from Nova Scotia Health Promotion and Protection

To Owners and Managers of Long Term Care Facilities

Changes to the *Smoke-Free Places Act* you should be aware of

Overview

Nova Scotia Health Promotion and Protection is sending this package as you have been identified as an employer, manager or owner of a workplace that is or may be affected by changes coming into effect where smoking is permitted. Bill 225, Amendments to the *Smoke-free Places Act* received Royal Assent on December 8, 2005. It is government's intent that this legislation will be proclaimed and take effect on and after December 1, 2006.

Taking a moment to read through to the changes to the *Smoke Free Places Act* will ensure the workplace you are responsible for is in compliance.

If you are already completely smoke-free, where you do not allow at anytime smoking on the premises, do not have a designated smoking room and do not allow smoking in any outdoor licensed outdoor area and patio -congratulations you are on your way to creating a smoke free environment!

The Act is also enclosed for your review.

Designated Smoking Rooms (DSRs) no longer allowed

On December 1, 2006 DSRs will no longer be permitted under the *Smoke-free Places Act*. The only exception in the use of designated smoke rooms (DSRs) is provided for health care facilities for the acute or long term care of veterans, in licensed nursing homes and residential care facilities and in homes for aged and disabled persons. All regulations pertaining to the construction, operation and maintenance of DSRs will be maintained.

Other things you need to know and remember

The *Smoke-free Places Act* currently does not permit the following:

- Smoking is not permitted within four metres of an intake for a building ventilation system, an open window of a place employment or an entrance to a place of employment.
- Ashtrays are not permitted anywhere and anytime where smoking is prohibited.

Need Help?

If you have questions about these changes and how they will affect you call Nova Scotia Health Promotion and Protection at 1.800.565.3611.