



A Message from Nova Scotia Health Promotion and Protection

Changes to the *Smoke-free Places Act*

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 the changes to the *Smoke Free Places Act* will ensure the workplace for which you are responsible is in compliance.

The Act is also enclosed for your review.

Smoke free during all Business Hours

On December 1, 2006 managers shall not permit smoking in indoor workplaces and public places during all hours.

Elimination of Designated Smoking Rooms (DSRs)

On December 1, 2006 managers of indoor workplaces and public places are to ensure DSRs, the "designated smoke rooms" are not in use. DSRs will no longer be permitted under the *Smoke-free Places Act*. This change means that existing DSRs in all workplaces as well as bars, restaurants, cabarets, private clubs, bingos and any other place licensed to serve alcoholic beverages are to be discontinued on December 1, 2006.

Exception

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.

Outdoor areas licensed to serve alcohol and food are to be smoke free

The changes coming into effect on December 1, 2006 require outdoor areas of all restaurants, lounges, beverage rooms, private clubs and cabarets to be smoke free if that area is used for the serving or consumption of food or beverages.

Private functions and clubs are to be smoke free

An enclosed place, outdoor area or drinking place while being used exclusively for a private function is to be smoke free. Managers of private clubs shall not permit smoking.

Need Help?

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

Look for updates and information at www.sickofsmoke.com.