

# Request for Decision



To: Committee of the Whole  
From: **Corporate Services**  
Date: May 6, 2019  
Subject: Bylaw 2054 – Smoke- and Vape-Free Places  
Recommendation: **THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that Council give the first three readings to Bylaw No. 2054, “Smoke- and Vape-Free Places Bylaw” at the May 21, 2019, Regular Meeting as presented.**

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## Background

The Community Charter gives municipalities the authority to establish certain prohibitions in public places for the health and well-being of its citizens.

The BC Provincial Government enacted section 2.3 of the *Tobacco Control Act* in March of 2008, prohibiting smoking within public and work places, covering indoor areas and outdoor work areas. As the percentage of smokers decreases, in British Columbia a country-wide low of 10.2% of the population as of 2015, there is increased demand for smoke-free areas outdoors as well as indoors.

The Federal Government’s Bill 45 (the “Cannabis Act”) came into effect on October 17, 2018, legalizing recreational use of cannabis nationwide.

Bylaw 2054 is the City’s proposed Smoke- And Vape-Free Places Bylaw. This bylaw designates outdoor public spaces including parks, playgrounds, public sidewalks, and the main core of downtown (Market Avenue) as no smoking areas for tobacco, cannabis, and other products, limiting the use of these products to areas minimizing exposure to second-hand smoke to other residents. Many of these restrictions are consistent with existing Provincial legislation.

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## Benefits or Impacts

**General:** This bylaw addresses the health and well-being of the citizens of Grand Forks.

**Strategic Impact:** The bylaw addresses feedback from residents impacting Community Liveability.

**Financial:** This bylaw has low financial impact; there would be some costs for procurement and installation of signage as specified in the bylaw.

**Policy/Legislation:** This bylaw enhances smoking area limitations defined by the *Tobacco Control Act*, and sets other limitations in place in advance of the forthcoming *Cannabis Act* implementation.

## Attachments

Bylaw 2054 – Smoke- and Vape-Free Places

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## Recommendation

**THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that Council give the first three readings to Bylaw No. 2054, “Smoke- And Vape-Free Places Bylaw” at the May 21, 2019, Regular Meeting as presented.**

## Options

1. THAT Committee of the Whole forward the bylaw to the May 21 Regular Meeting as presented.
2. THAT Committee of the Whole forward the bylaw to the May 21 Regular Meeting with amendments.
3. THAT Committee of the Whole refers the matter back to staff for further information.