



**POLICY FOR  
A SMOKE-FREE AND CANNABIS-FREE  
ENVIRONMENT**

As of May 2, 2022

Document prepared by the Direction of Studies of College Canada.

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## **1. PRINCIPLES**

This policy is based on College Canada’s aim to promote the overall health and well-being of all members of it’s community. To provide a healthy and safe environment, and to support the development of healthy lifestyle habits, is a major concern of the College. Through its actions, it wishes to contribute to the fight against smoking, which remains a public health priority in Quebec. It wishes to offer its students, teachers, employees and visitors a healthy environment, free of harmful tobacco smoke and conducive to quitting smoking. Through this policy, the college also wishes to inform all the college community of the legal aspect surrounding the consumption and possession of cannabis in Canada College establishments in order to promote a safe healthy environment for all.

## **2. LEGAL ASPECT**

In November 2015, the Tobacco Control Act (hereinafter, the “Act”) came into force. This Act amends the Tobacco Act to extend its scope to electronic cigarettes by assimilating the latter to tobacco as well as to further restrict the use of tobacco, thus requiring general and vocational colleges to take the necessary measures to ensure compliance with these new restrictions. Section 5.1 of the Act states that as of November 26, 2017, general and vocational colleges must have adopted a tobacco control policy aimed at creating “smoke-free” environments. Although, the use of cannabis is legal since October 17 2018, legislation still applies to educational establishments.

## **3. DEFINITIONS**

For the purposes of this Policy and unless the contrary intention is evident in the text, the following words and expressions are defined as follows:

### **Building**

Any construction intended for habitation or constituting a shelter.

### **Campus**

Space bringing together all the buildings of the College.

### **Cannabis**

The word cannabis refers to any part of the cannabis plant, fresh cannabis, dried cannabis, cannabis oil, cannabis in concentrate form and any other category of cannabis-derived product, whether edible or not.

**College community**

Includes all College staff members, students, visitors and internal partners.

**Individual**

Any physical person who frequents the College premises and grounds, including students, College staff members, suppliers, tenants and visitors.

**Locations**

Multi-storey building designed to provide administrative or educational functions.

**Properties**

Any outdoor space under the responsibility of the College.

**Site**

Any building or any closed area in a building accessible to various people, whether they come there for their work, for their studies or for business and of which the College is the owner or tenant.

**Tobacco**

Any product containing tobacco, electronic cigarettes and any other device of this nature that is put in the mouth to inhale any substance, whether or not containing nicotine, including their components and accessories, as well as than any other product or category of product which, under the terms of a government regulation, is assimilated thereto. "Tobacco" also includes the following accessories: tubes, papers, cigarette filters, pipes, including their components, cigarette holders and other tobacco products, including cigarillos, hookah (commonly known as pipe water or shisha) and the electronic cigarette.

**Consumption of Cannabis product**

Consuming includes, among other things, smoking, inhaling, skin-penetrating or using cannabis by any means. This definition also includes the act of swallowing in the form of tablets or of ingesting cannabis integrated or mixed with solid matter, in particular with food (cakes, muffins, biscuits, granola bars, candies, etc.) or with beverages.

## 4. FIELDS OF APPLICATION

This policy applies to all people who make up the college community: students, staff members as well as all partners, suppliers and visitors to the College. It applies to all locations and points of service where College Canada Inc. has jurisdiction.

## 5. OBJECTIFS

The College aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Create completely smoke-free environments both indoors and outdoors;
- Promote non-smoking;
- Support smoking cessation among students and staff.
- To prohibit, on all the properties of the College and its establishments, the consumption and possession of cannabis products, narcotics and other products likely to affect cognitive faculties..

## 6. MEASURES TO ENSURE A SMOKE AND CANNABIS-FREE ENVIRONMENT

### Signage and communications

The College undertakes to implement a communication plan to support the diffusion of this policy. This communication plan must cover the following elements:

- Preventive display in the College;
- Promoting the policy to community members;
- Periodic reminders using internal communication channels.

### Prevention of smoking initiation

The College is committed to promoting the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and a smoke-free and drug-free environment through various activities such as poster and information campaigns to prevent smoking initiation, prevention kiosks, etc.

### Smoking Cessation Support

The College ensures that students and staff members are made aware of the organizations that provide support for quitting smoking and help with drug use and facilitate their access to them (appendix).

### Prohibition supporting non-smoking

In accordance with the Tobacco Control Act (R.S.Q., c. L-6-2), it is prohibited to:

- Consume tobacco products in properties or building belonging to the College as well as on all College campus grounds ;
- Discard any tobacco product, cigarette butt and other components or accessory associated with its use on College campus grounds;
- To sell or promote tobacco products on College grounds tobacco products, electronic cigarettes (vaping) or any other inhalation device, whether or not containing nicotine, including their components and accessories, as well as any other product or category of product assimilated thereto.

### Prohibition supporting cannabis

In accordance with the Cannabis Act (S.C., 2019 c. 25), it is prohibited to:

- Consume or possess cannabis for anyone in buildings or buildings belonging to the College as well as on all grounds of the College campuses ;
- To sell or promote cannabis on College grounds as well as any other product or category of product that is similar to it.

### Reporting Violations

Students and employees who witness a violation of the prohibitions mentioned above may report it to the Director of Studies or at the reception.

## 7. PENALTIES

### Tobacco

For any member of the college community, in the event of non-compliance with this policy and procedure, they may be reprimanded by the Studies Department and penalties could apply. The Act provides for several types of amendments related to different offences. The changes in force and applicable are those appearing on the website of the Quebec Ministry of Health and Social Services. If necessary, the College reserves the right to notify the competent authorities of any violation of the Act.

### **Cannabis**

It is prohibited for all members of the College community to use, sell, distribute, promote, receive deliveries of cannabis or any product containing cannabis on the grounds and buildings under the jurisdiction of the College or during school activities. or social events taking place there. Anyone who comes to class, internship or work under the influence of drugs is liable to sanctions that can go as far as expulsion and/or dismissal.

## **8. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This policy comes into effect upon its adoption by the Board of Directors of the College on May 2, 2022.

## 9. ROLES ET RESPONSABILITIES

- **General Direction**

The General Director is responsible for presenting this policy to the Board of Directors.

- **General Direction and Director of studies**

The Department of Studies is responsible for the application of this policy.

- **Assistant Director of Studies**

The Assistant Director of Studies is responsible for disseminating this policy to the community.

- **College community**

Members of the college community are responsible for contributing to the creation of a smoke- and cannabis-free environment by respecting this policy and helping to enforce it.

## 10. REVIEW AND REPORTING

Any modification or repeal of this Policy must be adopted by the Board of Directors of the College and comply with the provisions of the laws and regulations relating thereto.

Under the Act, the Executive Director of the College must, every two (2) years, report to the Board of Directors on the application of this Policy. The College sends this report to the Minister within sixty (60) days of its submission to the Board of Directors.



## 11. APPENDIX - RESSOURCES

Centres d'Abandon du Tabagisme au Québec

<https://quebecsanstabac/iquitnow/>

Drug : Help and reference

(1 800 265-2626)

<http://www.drogue-aidereference.qc.ca/>

Info-social 811

<https://www.quebec.ca/sante/trouver-une-ressource/info-social-811/>

Programme de soutien à l'abandon du tabagisme

<https://www.tobaccofreequebec.ca/iquitnow>

Phone : 1 866 JARRETE (1 866 527-7383)

College Canada Clinic

1231 Sainte-Catherine West, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor