

POLICY ON SMOKING AND CANNABIS PRODUCTS

Effective Date: April 12, 2024

Originating Office: Office of the Vice-President,
Services and Sustainability

Supersedes /Amends: December 10, 2019

Policy Number: VPSS-1

SCOPE

This Policy applies to all Members of the University Community (as defined below) on Campus (as defined below).

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to set out the rules regarding Smoking and Cannabis Products (as such terms are defined below) on Campus. This Policy conforms to the [Tobacco Control Act, CQLR, chapter L-6.2](#), the [Cannabis Regulation Act, CQLR, chapter C-5.3](#) and the [Cannabis Act, R.S.C., 2018, c. 16](#), as well as all other federal, provincial or municipal regulation and legislation relating to exposure to second-hand smoke and possession or consumption of Cannabis Products, as applicable to the University setting.

DEFINITION

For the purposes of this Policy, the following definitions shall apply:

“Campus” means any and all University buildings, including University residences, vehicles and outdoor premises owned or leased by Concordia University.

“Cannabis Product(s)” means any part of the cannabis plant, fresh cannabis, dried cannabis, cannabis oil, cannabis in the form of a concentrate, and any other category of product derived from cannabis, whether edible or not.

“Consuming” means burning, inhaling or Smoking (as defined below) in any manner, including, but not limited to, a cigarette, cigar, electronic cigarette, joint, pipe, vaping device or any similar apparatus; drinking; eating; injecting; swallowing; vaporizing or applying to the skin.

“DSVA(s)” means Designated Smoking and Vaping Areas and refers to identified exterior Campus areas where Smoking and Vaping is permitted.

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“Member of the University Community” means any student; any employee of the University, including staff, faculty, postdoctoral fellows, researchers, members of the administration, stagiaires and interns; any contract worker; volunteer; visitor or guest of the University.

“Smoking” means the usage or consumption of any product whether or not it contains or otherwise utilizes Tobacco (as defined below), and emits vapor or smoke.

“Tobacco” means tobacco or any tobacco-derived substances, and any product containing tobacco.

“Vaping” means inhaling and exhaling an aerosol produced by a vaping device, such as an electronic cigarette, containing nicotine, cannabis and/or any other liquids or substances.

POLICY

Cannabis Products

1. Possessing, consuming, growing, distributing, serving, cooking, preparing and producing Cannabis Products is prohibited everywhere on Campus.
2. Notwithstanding section 1, the possession and use of Cannabis Products for duly approved research purposes is permitted on Campus under a licence issued by Health Canada and in accordance with the regulations of the *Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux*, and with the terms of approval determined by the relevant University research ethics committee. A compliance review certificate must also be obtained from Environmental Health and Safety prior to any acquisition, storage or use of Cannabis Products on Campus.
3. When the possession and consumption of Cannabis Products is permitted under section 2, Members of the University Community who have been granted the permission must respect the limits of the legislation, as amended from time to time, and must store the Cannabis Products in a safe and secure manner, not accessible to others, and in a way that remains scent-free.

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4. In addition to section 3, Members of the University Community who have been granted the permission to acquire, possess and use Cannabis Products must keep an inventory of the product they have on hand and its use, as per applicable legislation.

Smoking and Vaping

5. The University provides outdoor DSVAs for Smoking and Vaping of non-Cannabis Products and non-prohibited substances in specific locations.
6. Smoking and Vaping are prohibited on Campus, except in DSVAs.
7. DSVAs include waste receptacles. Smokers are required to use the appropriate waste receptacles and to keep these spaces clean.

Distribution and Sale

8. No Tobacco, Vaping or Cannabis Products can be distributed or sold on Campus.

Advertisement and Promotion

9. Advertising and promotion of Tobacco, Vaping or Cannabis Products on Campus or during University-sponsored events off Campus is prohibited.

Pedagogical and Research-related Activities

10. The following is not prohibited:
 - a. Providing courses, programs, workshops, symposia or presentations on cannabis;
 - b. Publicizing, promoting or sponsoring University courses, programs, workshops, symposia, presentations or centres that provide education or training on cannabis;
 - c. Referring to cannabis in scientific, educational, literacy or artistic documents or presentations.

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Health Resources

11. In its continuing efforts to promote good health and a smoke-free lifestyle, the University offers, via [Health Services](#), a variety of services. Students, staff and faculty who wish to [stop Smoking or Vaping](#) can meet with a health professional from Health Services for [one-on-one Smoking cessation counseling](#). Resources are also available at Health Services for members of the community dealing with addiction and substance use. More information is available [here](#).
12. Other resources are available for staff and faculty through the [Employee Assistance Program](#).

Policy Compliance

13. Deans, Directors, Departmental Chairs and all supervisors, including faculty members, are responsible for ensuring that those reporting to them are informed of this Policy.
14. Any member of the community who fails to comply with this Policy may face disciplinary measures under the *Code of Rights and Responsibilities* ([BD-3](#)), or the relevant collective or employment agreement, which can include a verbal or written warning and/or an obligatory viewing of an online educational video.
15. Campus Safety and Prevention Services is responsible for addressing any contravention to this Policy.

Policy Responsibility and Review

16. The overall responsibility for the implementation and recommended amendments to this Policy shall rest with the Vice-President, Services and Sustainability.
17. In accordance with the [Tobacco Control Act, CQLR, chapter L-6.2](#), the Vice-President, Services and Sustainability shall report to the Board of Governors of the University every two years regarding the application of the relevant sections of this Policy. The University will forward such report to the *Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux* within 60 days of filing it with the Board of Governors.