

Motion

Smoking in Vehicles with Minors Present

WHEREAS tobacco smoke contains more than 50 compounds that are known carcinogens;

AND WHEREAS second-hand tobacco smoke (SHS) is a definitive cause of cancer in humans;

AND WHEREAS in 2012, 34% of the NWT population aged 15 and over were smokers, compared to 21% in Canada;

AND WHEREAS cancer is the leading cause of death in the Northwest Territories, accounting for approximately one in four deaths each year;

AND WHEREAS the impacts of cancer on families, communities, and the healthcare system are extremely high;

AND WHEREAS health research shows that children are more vulnerable to adverse health effects from SHS exposure;

AND WHEREAS children and teenagers typically have less control over their environment than adults;

AND WHEREAS the Canadian Cancer Society supports and promotes cancer prevention, and proposes that all provinces and territories enact legislation to protect children and minors from SHS in vehicles;

AND WHEREAS eight other Canadian provinces and territories have enacted legislation against smoking in vehicles when minors are present;

AND WHEREAS the Northwest Territories Cancer Prevention Strategy 2015-2025 includes cancer prevention initiatives for children and youth;

Date of Notice:

Moved by:

AND WHEREAS the Community Wellness and Safety section of the revised Mandate of the Government of the Northwest Territories 2016-2019 includes several commitments for cancer prevention, including "developing and proposing updated tobacco control legislation";

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Deh Cho, that the 18th Legislative Assembly recommends that the *Tobacco Control Act* be amended to include a prohibition on smoking in a vehicle when a minor is present;

AND FURTHER, that the Government of the Northwest Territories respond to this motion within 120 days.