



Thunder Bay - May 31, 2010

Thunder Bay's much anticipated smoke-free parks and beaches bylaw came into effect on World No Tobacco Day, May 31, 2010. A celebration was held in a local park with a group of excited daycare children who enjoyed playing on the swings, slide, and sandbox without needing to worry about the hazards of smoking nearby.

Thunder Bay's bylaw restricts smoking in areas where children play, banning the butt within 10 metres of playground equipment, beaches and any waterfront, as well as recreational facilities, such as hockey arenas. A promotional campaign by the Thunder Bay District Health Unit proudly touted the message "I (Heart) Smoke-Free Outdoor Spaces".

Thanks go out to Tobacco-Free Thunder Bay, the peer leaders of the YETI and MAKWA who campaigned for several years for this bylaw, our forward-thinking city council, and everyone who had a hand in making this change possible.

Submitted by, Daniel DePeuter, North West Tobacco Control Area Network