



Youth Group in Barrie Helps Bring About Smoke-Free By-Law For Park and Recreation Spaces

On July 17, 2007 Article 4, a group of youth in Barrie Ontario, worked with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit to host an event called *Hop Dat Park*. As part of the event, youth travelled to seven of Barrie's most popular parks to promote the value of smoke-free parks and playing fields. During the event, they unleashed an intense blast of games and fun on youth, all in the name of anti-tobacco awareness. Article 4 also encouraged parents and youth to sign their petition for smoke-free parks and playing fields in the city of Barrie.

Article 4 received a lot of media attention for the events which helped to get the issue of smoke-free parks on the radar of the decision makers in Barrie. The City of Barrie began to investigate this issue and with help from other community officials a by-law was passed in 2009 for smoke-free parks and playing fields.