

January 10, 2007

TO: Regional Chair Bill Fisch
Members of Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee

Re: Smoke-Free Canada

In March 2006, Regional Council passed a resolution entitled "Smoke-Free Canada," which urged the government of Canada to enact legislation to make all public places and workplaces in Canada smoke-free. The resolution listed nine countries that have been leaders in the development of smoke-free legislation. Since that time, additional countries have moved towards becoming smoke-free, most notably France, which has introduced laws which will prohibit smoking in workplaces beginning February 2007 and in restaurants beginning January 2008.

York Region's development and implementation of its No-Smoking By-Law made the Region a smoke-free leader in Ontario, which subsequently enacted smoke-free legislation of its own. We should continue to assert our leadership in this important health matter, and lobby the federal government to enact legislation to make Canada smoke-free.

Because it is important that this issue remain in the forefront, a resolution is attached for Committee's consideration.

Sincerely,

Joyce Frustaglio
Regional Councillor

Attachment