

Campus Community Consultation: Summary of What We Heard

April 5, 2021



Smoke-Free Campus: Tobacco, Cannabis and Vaping



University of Windsor

Smoke-Free Campus

It includes:

Tobacco

Cannabis

Vaping



Campus Community Consultation Process

Goal: To provide students, faculty and staff with an opportunity to shape the Smoke-Free (tobacco, cannabis & vaping) Campus policy and its associated implementation strategies.

Activities Conducted:

Conversation
Boards

Online
Survey



Reach:

572

**Students, faculty
and staff**



University of Windsor

Conversation Boards

March 10 and 12, 2020
CAW Student Centre

483 students, faculty
and staff shared their
views/ideas

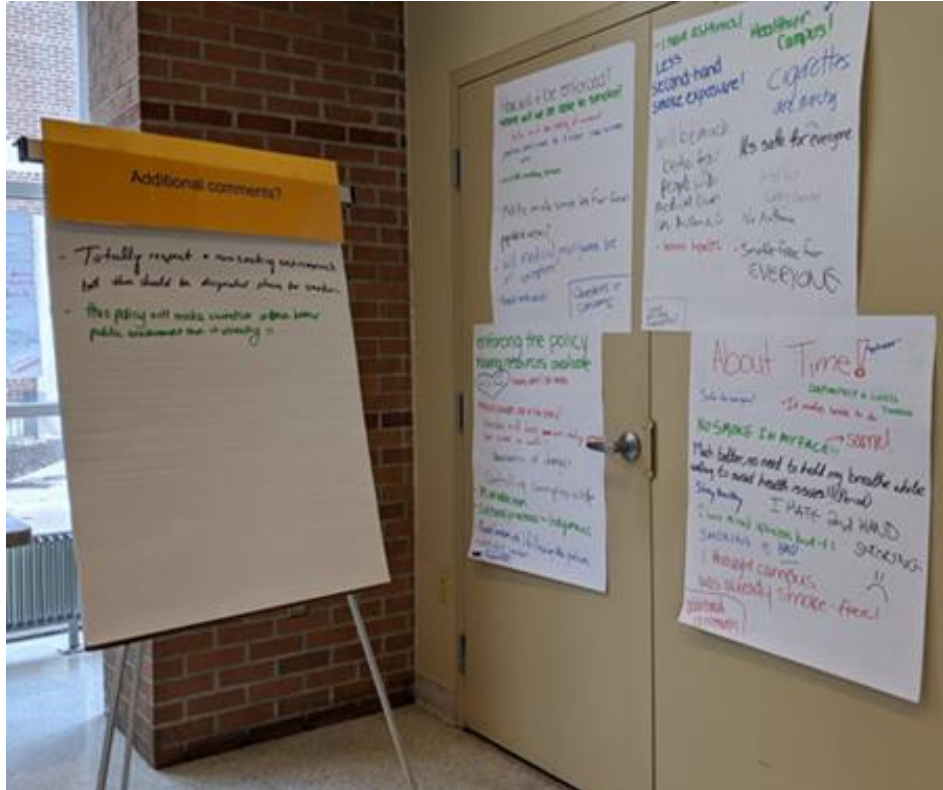
Online Survey

March 4 – 20, 2020

89 students, faculty and
staff shared their
views/ideas

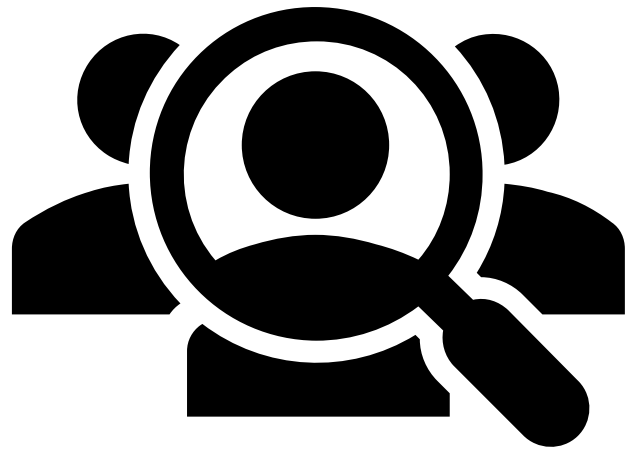


Questions that Framed the Consultation Process



- What do you see as the benefits associated with the University becoming a smoke-free campus?
- What potential challenges do you foresee as the University moves towards becoming a smoke-free campus?
- What questions or concerns do you have regarding the University becoming a smoke-free campus?
- What should the University consider as it develops the Smoke-Free Campus Policy and the Implementation Strategies (Enforcement, Public Education, Smoking Cessation Supports)?
- What resources should be available for students, faculty, staff to support the transition?





What We Have Heard: Emerging Themes



Benefits of Becoming a Smoke-Free Campus

- Healthier and cleaner campus environment with less litter.
- Welcoming, more inviting and professional campus.
- Enhanced reputation.
- Environmentally friendlier campus.
- Reduced health risks associated with smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke.



Challenges of Becoming a Smoke-Free Campus

- Policy enforcement and compliance.
- Having time to get to and from smoking location outside campus on break or between classes.
- Resistance from smokers given the perception that it infringes on personal rights and freedoms.
- Physical and mental impact given the addictive nature of nicotine.
- Potential stigmatization or alienation of smokers.
- Increased litter in the surrounding community.
- Decreased student engagement resulting from students wanting to minimize their time spent on campus.



Questions or Concerns About the University Becoming a Smoke-Free Campus

Questions and concerns brought forward fall within the following broad areas:

- Policy development (what it includes and exemptions) enforcement and compliance
- Supports for smokers
- Medicinal cannabis and ceremonial tobacco use and accommodations
- Definition of campus boundaries and what is considered University property
- Impact on the surrounding community
- Mental health & wellbeing of smokers
- University becoming non-inclusive, marginalization of smokers and discriminatory attitudes towards smokers
- Impact on students living in residence



Implementation Considerations and Resources to Support the Transition: **Policy Development and Enforcement**

- Clear articulation of the policy, enforcement and consequences of non-compliance.
- Ensure prominent signage across campus.
- Clearly communicate what is considered “campus” and closest areas outside the campus where individuals can go to smoke.
- Articulate procedures related to smoking of medicinal cannabis and the burning of indigenous sacred medicines.



Implementation Considerations and Resources to Support the Transition – **Awareness Raising & Supports**

- Offer smoking cessation programs and products/therapies to support those who would like to quit smoking.
- Implement a wide range of education and awareness raising activities grounded in respect, inclusion and evidence-based research, geared to both smokers and non-smokers.
- Minimize the potential negative impact on smokers (mental health).
- Introduce/enhance supports to individuals who smoke or choose to quit including mental health supports.

