

Calgary's new smoking bylaw

Compiled by Norma Marr

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- Citywide ban on smoking in indoor public places to take effect Jan. 1, 2007.

- The vast majority of businesses must comply on New Year's Day.

- Exceptions include about 100 establishments that have already built ventilated smoking rooms; they will be allowed to continue through 2007. Bingos and casinos have also been given a one-year reprieve.

- All businesses must comply with the bylaw on Jan. 1, 2008.

The Great Smoking Debate: a Timeline

1993

City council passes a bylaw that virtually snuffs out smoking in indoor public places. All workplaces are to have a written smoking policy.

2002

In an 8-7 vote, council approves a new bylaw outlawing smoking in all public places by Jan. 1, 2008. Restaurants, bars and gaming establishments are to declare themselves smoking or non-smoking by March 1, 2003. Minors are banned from designated smoking areas.

2003

Ald. John Schmal puts forward a motion to hold a plebiscite on the smoking issue in an attempt to speed up the planned date of a total ban to 2005 instead of 2008. Motion is defeated by a 8-6 vote.

July 2006

Council votes 10-5 to move up Calgary's smoking ban for indoor public places to January 2007. It then votes 11-4 to allow establishments that built ventilated smoking rooms to continue until January 2008.

October 2006

Council votes 11-4 to push the smoking ban to Jan. 1, 2007.



CREDIT: Ted Jacob, Calgary Herald

Non-smoker Saara Kingissepp, left, smiles as Jared Mogensen and Andrea Kingissepp voluntarily butt out at the Barley Mill. As of Jan. 1, Calgary smokers won't have a choice.

Bingos will be exempt, as will establishments that built ventilated smoking rooms before last July. All businesses will have to comply by Jan. 1, 2008.

Source: Herald archives

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