



Canada
Province of British Columbia
A Proclamation

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom,
Canada and Her other Realms and Territories, Queen, Head of the
Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith

To all to whom these presents shall come – Greeting

WHEREAS British Columbia has the distinction of having the lowest per capita smoking rate in Canada at 13%, and

WHEREAS British Columbians are protected from second-hand smoke and vaping in virtually all workplaces and public places, including many outdoor venues, and

WHEREAS Health Canada confirms that evidence clearly shows that people who are repeatedly exposed to second-hand smoke are more likely to develop heart and breathing problems and lung cancer and that children are more likely to develop asthma and ear infections, and

WHEREAS 42.1% of households in BC and 58.2% of households in the city of Vancouver are in multi-unit housing (including duplexes, townhouses, apartments and condos), yet the number of smoke- and vape-free residential multi-unit buildings is limited across the province, and

WHEREAS one-half of residents living in multi-unit housing report being exposed to second-hand smoke in their own homes as a result of smoke infiltration from neighbouring or adjoining units, and

WHEREAS almost 6 in 10 British Columbians indicate that they would prefer to live in a smoke-free building if such a choice existed, and almost three-quarters of respondents support an increase in smoke-free housing options for the province, and

WHEREAS the increase of available smoke-free multi-housing options will reduce the number of British Columbians involuntarily exposed to second-hand smoke where they live, which will positively impact overall health outcomes, especially for those with chronic diseases, and

WHEREAS Heart & Stroke, the BC Lung Association, Canadian Cancer Society and key multi-unit housing stakeholders are working to educate housing providers and raise awareness of demand for smoke-free options among housing providers;

NOW KNOW YE THAT, We do by these presents proclaim and declare that June 24 to 30, 2019 shall be known as

“Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing Week”

in the Province of British Columbia.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Our Province of British Columbia to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this seventeenth day of May, two thousand nineteen and in the sixty-eighth year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND.



Attorney General
(counter signature for the Great Seal)



Lieutenant Governor