

## **Pamphlet # 22**

**University of Manitoba  
Clean Air Procedures April 25, 2006**

### **2.3 Smudging and Pipe Ceremonies**

2.3.1 Smudging is an Aboriginal tradition which involves the burning of sweetgrass, sage and/or cedar. Sage smudge produces a very strong and distinct aroma but the smoke associated with it is minimal and lasts a very short time. Sweetgrass has a very mild aroma and produces even less smoke than sage. A smudge is burned primarily for purification and to help create a positive mind set. Tobacco is used in pipe ceremonies by a pipe carrier.

2.3.2 Under the Province of Manitoba's "The Non-Smoker's Health Protection Act" smudging and the use of tobacco in pipe ceremonies are permitted. The University of Manitoba has recognized that smudging and pipe ceremonies are a part of the Aboriginal traditional way of life and are therefore permitted on campus.

2.3.3 In order to reduce the number of inquiries regarding the smell of smoke in buildings a notification email and phone number has been set up to contact when smudging and/or pipe ceremonies are to occur in areas other than those previously designated as permanent smudging/pipe sites.

2.3.4 While it is not always possible to notify all concerned in advance, the procedure that follows will ensure that the Aboriginal Student Centre has been informed and the room in which the ceremonies are taking place will be identified in advance.

### **2.4 Permanent Smudging, Pipe Ceremony Location Procedures**

2.4.1 Prior to using a smudge/pipe the location for the ceremony shall have been examined by Physical Plant for ventilation, smoke alarms, etc. and the Aboriginal Student Centre (474-8850) shall be advised.

2.4.2 Once a location has been designated as a permanent smudging/pipe location, an approved sign shall be placed on the door to the room. The sign shall indicate that the room is a permanent smudging/pipe ceremony location and provide central contact numbers.

2.4.3 A list of pre-approved sites will be available from the Aboriginal Student Centre.

2.4.4 In order to help facilitate support and understanding from co-workers when designating a permanent smudging/pipe location, education sessions should be organized and delivered through the Aboriginal Student Centre.

2.4.5 Whenever a smudge has taken place, the Aboriginal Student Centre shall be notified.

### **2.5 Occasional Smudging, Pipe Ceremony Location Procedures**

2.5.1 The Aboriginal Student Centre shall be provided forty-eight (48) hours notice whenever a smudge will occur.

2.5.2 A sign shall be posted on the door of the room where the smudging/pipe ceremony is being held. Signs are available from the Aboriginal Student Centre. The sign shall include the University's logo, and shall show the date and time that the smudge/pipe ceremony will be held. Once the aroma of the

smudge/tobacco has dissipated, the sign shall be removed.

[http://www.umanitoba.ca/governance/gov\\_docs/procedures/cleanair.shtml](http://www.umanitoba.ca/governance/gov_docs/procedures/cleanair.shtml)

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## **Contact**

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**Accessibility**



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