

Health Unit Media Release



Charges Laid Under Smoke-Free Ontario Act

Tobacco use is the number one cause of preventable disease and death in Ontario. Smoking kills 16,000 people in Ontario each year.

The Smoke-Free Ontario Act came into effect in May 2006, making all public places and workplaces smoke-free.

“The Smoke-Free Ontario Act is a law of general application protecting all Ontarians in public places and workplaces including residents of Leeds, Grenville and Lanark,” said Dr. Anne Carter, Medical Officer of Health with the Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit. The Leeds, Grenville and Lanark Health Unit is designated to enforce this act and regulations.

Designated provincial offences officers have investigated the premises in Smiths Falls, Ontario, located at the Comfort Inn Hotel, 33 Centre Street. At the hotel, a bar named “Do’ Little’s” operates. The proprietor of this bar, Mike Kennedy, has been charged with three offences:

- a) That he failed to ensure compliance with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act and allowed persons to smoke tobacco on the premises.
- b) That he failed to post the prescribed signs prohibiting smoking.
- c) That he failed to ensure that there were no ashtrays on the premises.

The matter will be before the Ontario Court of Justice, Provincial Offences Court at 80 Gore Street East, Perth, Ontario on October 3, 2006 at 9:00am.

To confirm the contents of this press release, please contact Susan Healey, Communication Coordinator at 613-345-5685.