

Health Unit Media Release

For Immediate Release: March 14, 2007



SMOKE-FREE ONTARIO ACT WITHSTANDS CHALLENGE

On March 8, 2007, the trial for a Smokers' Club that operated at 33 Centre Street, Smiths Falls, formerly known as Dolittle's, was held in the Perth court.

The Proprietor of the establishment Mr. Mike Kennedy was contesting the application of the Smoke-Free Ontario Act as it pertains to private clubs. On the five charges under the Smoke-Free Ontario Act the Justice of the Peace convicted Mr. Kennedy on all charges with a total amount of \$3530.00 in fines.

Mr. Kennedy was charged with:

- Failure to post prescribed signs prohibiting smoking in an enclosed public place s.9(6)(c)
- Failure to ensure that no ashtrays or similar equipment remain in the enclosed public place s.9(6)(d)
- Failure to ensure compliance with requirement that no person smoke tobacco in an enclosed public place s.9(6)(a).
- Obstructing an inspector from conducting an inspection s.14 (16)
- Smoking tobacco in an enclosed public place s.9(1)

The Justice of the Peace provided Mr. Kennedy with 90 days to pay.

The charges against Chris Fagan and Stephanie Lepage were dropped.

Tobacco use is the number one cause of preventable disease and death in Ontario. Smoking kills 16,000 people in Ontario each year. Smoking and second-hand smoke exposure is first and foremost a health issue.

-30-

Contact:

Yves Decoste, RN, BScN, Tobacco Co-ordinator, 613-345-5685 or 1-800-660-5853