MANITOBA ANAPHYLAXIS INFORMATION NETWORK (MAIN)
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A local affiliate of the Allergy/Asthma Information Association (AAIA)

April 1, 2018

Dear Members of the Governance Committee of Council

I am writing to express my support of the resolution put forth to establish a policy prohibiting the use of scented products in City of Winnipeg workplaces.

As the coordinator of MAIN and through family and friends, I have a clear understanding of the wide range of adverse effects and/or serious health problems that can arise from exposure to scents. I can attest to the significant number of people who suffer needlessly due to a lack of control over scents within their environment.

Over the years, I have found that many individuals who are not affected by scents do not have a true picture of the discomfort or harm inflicted on those who have allergies or sensitivities to various scents. Often, those who do not react to scents have the impression that the adverse effects are minimal.

A common misconception is that exposure to scents causes a short term reaction and once an individual is no longer exposed the effects diminish. Most do not understand the longer term implications of exposures to scents that can range from extended periods of discomfort to serious threats to a person's overall health.

Instituting a clear policy prohibiting scented products in the workplace would protect employees from the numerous health issues unnecessarily caused by these chemicals.

I am hopeful that you will understand the significant support such a policy provides for employees with allergies and sensitivities who work for the organizations that have already implemented clean air policies and follow suit.

Sincerely,

Nancy Boni
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