

The Youth Tobacco Prevention Kits- For Elementary Schools

School District of Mystery Lake, Thompson, Mb

CONTENTS:

The Youth Tobacco Prevention Kit- For Elementary Schools has three sections. Section 1 and 2 are available at each elementary school. Section 3 is available on loan from the School Board Office.

Section 1 - VIDEOS (as described in the binder)

- Videos for elementary grade levels 1 through 7 on various tobacco messages are available at each elementary school. The recommended grade levels are noted.
- For duplication of the kits by another organization, school district or youth group, please see complete order information within the Binder. Some videos are free & some must be purchased.

Section 2 – SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS (as contained in the binder)

- Other materials such as coloring books, information sheets, bumper stickers, posters and other sources for classroom use are included in this binder as a master copy only. Please order quantities you need for classroom use. Order sources are contained in binder.

Section 3 –DISPLAY MODELS (on loan at the School Board Office, as described in Binder)

- Four display models (x 2 sets) on loan to all schools in Thompson from the School District of Mystery Lake Board Office. These teaching models are also available outside the school district to others working with children/youth such as health professionals or youth leaders.

HISTORY:

The kits were developed in 2005 by the Burntwood Tobacco Reduction Partners Committee, a group of a cross-section of agencies and individuals. With the able assistance of Wally Plett, during his field placement for the Faculty of Social Work degree program, the School District of Mystery Lake, the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba and the Burntwood Regional Health Authority, the kits were finalized for use in April 2006.

Funding for the kits was made available by Healthy Schools dollars in partnership between the School District of Mystery Lake and the Burntwood Regional Health Authority with supplemental funding from the BRHA for additional display models.

The kit was researched and developed to assist teachers to deliver tobacco reduction education for Grades 1-7 in order to complement the Health Education curriculum. These tangible materials can be used for educational tools, and classroom activities to enhance student learning for tobacco prevention, and ultimately deter young people from smoking.

The rationale was well established through numerous studies of Thompson and within the Burntwood region showing children and youth start smoking as young as 8 years old. Further, smoking rates in the Burntwood region are double the provincial rate, 43.3% compared to 22.6% for Manitoba (CCHS 2003), and estimated to be close to 70% in rural remote northern communities. Since 85% of smokers start before their 19th birthday (Health Canada), efforts to direct prevention to the children and youth of our communities is essential. A clear gap in resources for elementary teachers was identified through a survey of home-room teachers in Thompson by the Tobacco Reduction Partners in Jan 2005.

It is the sincere hope and desire of the Burntwood Tobacco Reduction Partners Committee that an increasing number of children and youth will choose not to smoke as a result of teachers or other leaders using the Youth Tobacco Prevention Kits.

For more information please contact:

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