



CONDUCT OF SMUDGING CEREMONIES

MSVU Aboriginal Student Centre/Mount Saint Vincent University

1. **Locations:** Due to possible allergic reactions to the smoke and odor, the most ideal location for smudging ceremonies is outside. Smudging outside must occur beyond 10 meters from any door opening or fresh air intake as per University smoking policy; however, there are locations inside the University where smudging will be accommodated: MSVU Aboriginal Student Centre (46 Melody Dr.), Peace Room (EVR C410), Campus Wigwam (College Rd.), and given **sufficient notice**, the campus Art Gallery.
2. **Notification:** The MSVU Aboriginal Student Centre will provide notification of smudging ceremonies taking place on campus to the Office of the Associate Vice-President of Student Experience, Facilities Management, as well as any other Mount community member near the planned smudging ceremony location. Notification must be given **one week** prior to a scheduled event. A sign indicating a smudging ceremony will take place **must** be posted on the door or in proximity of the smudging location for the duration of the ceremony. Notification on the Mounts website through the communications department is greatly encouraged to promote awareness and inclusion.

*Notification will include:

Date/time of ceremony, occasion/reason for ceremony, any appropriate information regarding air quality and safety procedures

3. **Air Quality:** Every effort will be made by the persons conducting the ceremony to confine the smoke to the immediate area. During ceremonies, Facilities Management personnel will adjust building ventilation systems (to the extent possible) to maximize the input of air quality and exhaust return to reduce the amount of air containing smoke.
4. **Fire Detection and Alarm Systems:** Upon notification of a smudging ceremony, Facilities Management will take appropriate action to ensure (within the limits of National Fire Code regulations) that the smoke detections systems in the location of the ceremony are monitored and controlled until the ceremony is complete and the smoke has dissipated.
5. **Safety:** Smudging will only be allowed in buildings/rooms equipped with a sprinkler fire suppression system. In addition, Facilities Management will provide an ABC type fire extinguisher to the person(s) conducting the ceremony.