



**Dental Health Promotion Working Group
of Saskatchewan
Position Statement on Tobacco
2010**

Based on research and overwhelming evidence stating that the use of tobacco products is the leading cause of preventable death and disease in Canada; that there is no safe form of tobacco and that tobacco products have been shown to contribute to oral diseases, including oral cancer and periodontal disease:

The Dental Health Promotion Working Group:

- Opposes the use of **all** tobacco products as harmful to health, with recognition and respect for the ceremonial and traditional use of tobacco.
- Advises all tobacco users to discontinue the use of all tobacco products without exception.
- Believes that the promotion of smokeless (spit) tobacco use for any reason delivers an inappropriate public health message.
- Supports the use of scientifically and clinically proven nicotine replacement therapies and pharmacotherapy only, as a safe and effective aid to tobacco cessation.
- Supports all tobacco intervention efforts, especially those that emphasize prevention of tobacco use and protection of children from exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke.