



**Northwestern
Health Unit**

www.nwhu.on.ca

For Immediate Release
August 14, 2014

Northwestern Health Unit Congratulates the Dryden Fall Fair

The Northwestern Health Unit applauds the recent decision of the Dryden District Agricultural Society board to ban smoking on some of their grounds for the upcoming Dryden Fall Fair. The fair takes place from August 21 to 23 and this year visitors will enjoy smoke-free outdoor spaces at the midway and in the food areas. The Dryden Fall Fair shows great leadership by being one of the first agricultural fairs in the province to provide large outdoor smoke-free areas at their fair.

“Research indicates there is no safe level of exposure to second-hand smoke, even outdoors,” says Christine McLeod, Health Promoter at the Northwestern Health Unit. “We are really pleased that the board has decided to offer smoke-free spaces at this year’s Dryden Fall Fair. They are helping to protect the health of the people who attend especially families and children.”

The new smoke-free spaces will limit unnecessary exposure to second-hand smoke for all visitors in the midway and food areas. By limiting exposure to smoking where children and youth are, the board will help prevent young people from starting to use tobacco. In addition, smoke-free spaces assist people who want to quit smoking and help reduce cigarette butt litter on the ground.

The Northwestern Health Unit will provide signage which will be installed throughout the fair grounds to ensure that visitors are aware of the new smoke-free areas.

Tobacco remains the number one cause of preventable disease and death in Ontario. Every year smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke contributes to the deaths of 13,000 Ontarians.

If you would like more information about making your upcoming event smoke-free or creating smoke-free spaces in your community contact your local health unit office.

-30-

For further information please contact:

Christine McLeod,
Health Promoter
Northwestern Health Unit
807-223-3301 ext: 3533
cmcleod@nwhu.on.ca