

# Fire Risk & Safe Smoking



## Fire Risk

According to a study by the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs, smoking related fires account for approximately 70 deaths and 300 injuries in Canada yearly

Smoking is the leading cause of fatal fires among the elderly

In households where one or more members smoke, the risk of fire related injuries to the smoker or a family member is 5x higher compared to non-smoking residences

Compared to the general population:

- the risk of dying in a fire for people age 65+ is **2.5** times greater than for younger adults

The risk increases with increasing age:

- 65-74 the risk is 1.8 time greater than the general population
- 85+ the risk increases to 4.6 times greater

## Safe smoking

- The Smoke-Free Ontario Act protects all staff and residents by reducing the risk of fire related fatalities and injuries by requiring all residents who smoke in Controlled Smoking Areas (CSA) to be assessed as safe smokers
- Safe smokers are those who can smoke safely and without the help of others

For more information on fire risks and safe smoking or for an example of a safe smoking assessment form please contact:

---