

# **IW Smudging Policy**

## **Introduction**

Pillar Nonprofit Network recognizes the spiritual and cultural importance of Indigenous practices, and is committed to creating an inclusive environment for its co-tenants and the wider Innovation Works community. Smudging is the burning of sacred medicines and is meant to purify, protect and harmonize spiritual spaces and is a common practice among Indigenous people, Pillar encourages and supports those who wish to participate in smudging ceremonies at Innovation Works.

This policy is meant to provide guidance on engaging in the Indigenous practice of smudging at Innovation Works.

## **Regulations**

### Notification:

There are tenants that have sensitivities or allergies to the smoke created during the ceremony, particularly to tobacco. If possible we would ask that tobacco is not used in this ceremony. Recognizing that sensitivities do exist please follow the steps below to inform tenants when smudging ceremonies are being planned:

- 1 week prior to the smudging ceremony, an email notification must be sent out to all Innovation Works co-tenants, if possible advise co-tenants of the medicines that will be used, (ie: sage, tobacco, sweetgrass etc)
- During the ceremony a notice must be placed on the door, the notice should be removed when the smoke has dissipated by the individuals who are hosting the smudging exercise.

### Location:

The following rooms are designated areas that have the required ventilation for smudging practices:

- RBC Vault
- Commons (First Floor)

### Air Quality:

Event organizers will ensure doors remain closed during the ceremony, and until the aroma has dissipated

### Health Risks:

The Notification guidelines should be followed to ensure smudging does not pose as a health risk to those with sensitivities or allergies to the smoke.

**Fire Safety:**

During the ceremony, never leave any burning material unattended and douse the burning material immediately after the conclusion of the smudging ceremony.