

Editors
Free Press

February 8th, 2022

Dear Editors,

**RE: City looking at 3 options to deal with air quality By: Joyanne Pursaga
Posted: 6:00 AM CST Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022**

On behalf of all people concerned with lung health as well as those 1 in 5 Manitobans with lung health concerns, the Lung Association, Manitoba applauds Winnipeg City Council's decision to explore ways to improve air quality.

Taking the step to explore "clean air shelters" is a bold and innovative move and looking at increasing the number of air quality monitors is also an important action.

Further, as the city is researching possible policy changes that could set guidelines for when the city should shut down services that are riskier when air quality is poor, the following additional actions should be considered by Council to address improving air quality in Winnipeg:

- 1.) Banning residential recreational fire pits; or restricting their use to the new "smoke-less" ones, or propane fire pits as a harm reduction approach.
- 2.) Banning hookah use in public spaces such as lounges.
- 3.) Further regulating vaping, cannabis smoking and tobacco smoking to reduce exposure in public spaces.

Respectfully submitted,

Neil Johnston, RRT
President and CEO