

UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER VALLEY
Policies and Procedures
SUBJECT: PROCEDURES FOR SMUDGING AND OTHER CEREMONIAL USE OF SMOKE

Purpose:

To honour the multicultural *characteristic* of the student body at UFV and to respect culturally sensitive ceremonies, smudging and other ceremonial use of smoke are accepted practices on UFV campuses.

1) Permanent Smudging Sites

The University will designate one or more appropriate smudging sites each year that will provide a dedicated site to allow individuals to participate in ceremonies which result in the use of smoke .

Agreement on location of appropriate sites shall be made in a consultative manner with representatives of the University, Facilities, and the Senior Advisor on Indigenous Affairs advisory.

In order to reduce the number of inquiries regarding the smell of smoke in buildings and in recognition of the health concerns of the University community, when a ceremony is planned in an area other than in one of the S'olh Shxwlèlì's (Aboriginal Resource Centre's) during the regular operating hours of the University, a notification email will be sent to departments with offices near the location of the ceremony at least forty eight (48) hours before any smudging and/or pipe ceremonies.

Ceremonial uses of smoke are most commonly held by members of the First Nations community and as such, the S'olh Shxwlèlì's have been dedicated as an appropriate smudging site. Out of respect to students and staff at UFV signage will be posted on the door of the room indicating that it is a ceremonial room. The signage shall indicate a central contact number for individuals to call for further information.

2) Occasional Smudging and other Ceremonial use of Smoke Location Procedures

When a ceremony using smoke is planned for a location other than a S'olh Shxwlèlì, Facilities and Security shall be notified at least forty eight (48) hours before the ceremony.

Signage will be posted on the door of the room where the ceremony is being held. Signs are available through Facilities. Signage will include the University logo and the Aboriginal Access Services logo as well as the date and time that the ceremony will be held. Once the ceremony is completed, the sign will be removed.