

# ELMIRA COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 13, 2023

Dear EC Community

Beginning August 1, 2023, Elmira College will become a smoke-free campus. This means:

- Tobacco use, marijuana use (which is already prohibited), and the use of vaping products is prohibited everywhere within the perimeter of Elmira College property, both indoors and outdoors, as well as in College-owned vehicles and in any vehicle on Elmira College property.
- The use of smoking products or devices is prohibited at all College-sponsored, off-campus events.
- The College will not accept advertising, marketing, distribution, or promotion of tobacco products.

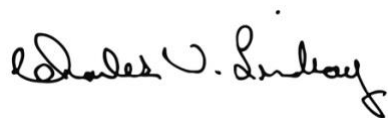
A copy of the full policy is [attached](#).

There are several factors contributing to this decision, including the College's goal of becoming more environmentally friendly and sustainable. Cigarette butts are the largest single type of litter by count and their filters do not biodegrade. Additionally, tobacco product packaging creates 2 million tons of waste per year. In addition, and according to the Centers for Disease Control, cigarette smoke contributes thousands of metric tons of cancer-causing chemicals, other toxins, and greenhouse gasses globally each year.

The Safety Committee will offer a "detox day" in May, at which the Chemung County Health Department will table in the Campus Center, answer questions, offer quitting resources, and promote "smoke free in 2023." Additional evidence-based cessation programs and resources will be offered throughout the year.

Additional reminders will be sent as August 1 approaches, but I want to thank you now for your support and compliance with this new policy. It is one additional step to making the Elmira College campus a healthy and sustainable campus.

Thank you,



Charles W. Lindsay, PhD  
President