



**Stairs Memorial United Church**  
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## **SCENT-REDUCED POLICY**

Approved at Executive Council: September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Modified/Revised: \_\_\_\_\_

### **PURPOSE**

We here at Stairs Memorial United Church realize that there are an increasing number of people who have developed sensitivities to certain chemicals. Stairs Memorial United Church wants to limit the exposure of congregants, employees, volunteers, foodbank clientele and visitors to fragrances and chemical substances.

### **POLICY**

Stairs Memorial United Church supports the creation of a fragrance reduced environment so that chemical barriers can be lessened and will not prevent access to Stairs Memorial United Church for people having chemical sensitivities. This policy applies to all congregants, employees, volunteers, foodbank clientele and visitors who are asked to reduce or refrain from using, wearing, and bringing scented products and materials into Stairs Memorial United Church.

### **PROCEDURE**

- A. To limit exposure, congregants, employees, volunteers, foodbank clientele and visitors staff are encouraged to:
1. Use non-scented body products (e.g. perfume, cologne, lotions, scented hair products, etc...).
  2. Reduce or refrain from the use of optional items that give off scents (i.e. any type of air fresheners, potpourri and flowers).
  3. Air-out recently dry-cleaned clothing before wearing to work.
  4. Use the least toxic cleaning products, disinfectants and paints that are commercially available and store these products in tightly closed, ventilated areas away from staff and visitors.
- B. Notifications
1. Ensure that signage informing congregants, employees, volunteers, foodbank clientele and visitors of these guidelines are posted at the entrance to the building and in common congregation areas, such as waiting rooms and washrooms. The signage shall state – Stairs Memorial United Church is a scent reduced space and we encourage users to reduce or refrain from scented products that can cause allergic reactions and respiratory distress. Congregants, employees, volunteers, foodbank clientele and visitors Staff and visitors are encouraged to reduce or not to wear or use any scented products while working at Stairs Memorial United Church.

*Faith that Matters, Love that Matters, Community that Matters*

2. Where appropriate, include the following statement on flyers advertising events to be held at Stairs Memorial United Church “Scented products can cause allergic reactions and respiratory distress. Congregants, employees, volunteers, foodbank clientele and visitors Staff and visitors are encouraged to reduce or refrain from using any scented products while at Stairs Memorial United Church.
3. In reaction to an exposure, congregants, employees, volunteers, foodbank clientele and visitors staff are requested to remove themselves from the exposure completely.