UM | Environmental Health and Safety Office

TITLE: Smudging and Pipe Ceremony	Version: 1
	Version Date: 2023-09-22
Signing Authority: Delaine Russo	

1 Purpose

This procedure was developed in consultation with the Office of V.P. Indigenous to provide a process for members of the UM community to coordinate and/or perform smudging and pipe ceremony at the University of Manitoba campuses and remote facilities. This process is in place to ensure smudges, pipe ceremonies and building occupants activities are not disrupted by life safety system alarms or ventilation issues.

Under the Province of Manitoba's "The Non-Smokers Health Protection Act," smudging and the use of tobacco in pipe ceremonies are permitted. The University of Manitoba recognizes that smudging and pipe ceremonies are a part of the Indigenous traditional way of life and are therefore permitted and supported on campus.

This procedure is intended to outline the process of organizing a smudge in a UM location from a technical and life safety perspective and is not intended to act as a guide for the smudging ceremony itself. For information about the cultural significance and protocols of smudging and pipe ceremony please visit the UM Indigenous page https://umanitoba.ca/indigenous/culture-and-protocol.

2 Scope

This procedure applies to all members of the UM community.

3 Definitions

Smudge and Pipe Ceremony	Smudging is an Indigenous tradition which involves the burning of sweetgrass, sage, and cedar. Sage and cedar smudges produce a very strong and distinct aroma but the smoke associated with them is minimal and lasts a very short time. Sweetgrass has a very mild aroma and produces less smoke. A smudge is burned primarily for purification and to help to create a positive mind set. Tobacco is used in pipe ceremonies by a pipe carrier.

4 Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the leadership of the UM as well as all staff, students, faculty, and guests to learn about the cultural importance of smudging and pipe ceremony.

It is the responsibility of the **Event Organizer** to:

- Ensure that cultural protocols are followed. (https://umanitoba.ca/indigenous/culture-and-protocol).
- Read, understand, and comply with this procedure and any applicable procedures under section 5.

It is the responsibility of **Physical Plant** to:

- Provide technical support for smudging and pipe ceremonies.

It is the responsibility of the **Environmental Health and Safety Office** to:

- Support and offer safety training when required for event organizers planning a smudge/pipe ceremony.
- Review and maintain this technical document.

5 Procedures

5.1 Preparation

Event organizers must ensure that cultural protocols are followed. The UM Indigenous community offers many resources and opportunities for education. More information about Culture and Protocol can be found on the UM Indigenous website https://umanitoba.ca/indigenous/culture-and-protocol.

Smudge-friendly locations can be used for smudging at any time without notification to Physical Plant. These locations have been previously reviewed and do not require the isolation of life safety systems.

Smudging locations requiring protocols are locations that have been previously reviewed and may require Physical Plant to isolate life safety systems. There are also other spaces you wish to participate in smudging that are not on the list. For these locations, please complete the Smudging Location Review Form and send to the Life Safety Engineer and EHSO 3 working days prior to the event so ensure any required protocols can be implemented.

The area will be reviewed for any protocols that may be needed in order to ensure fire alarm and ventilation issues will not disrupt the ceremony participants' or building occupants' activities. The person who completed the review form will be contacted by Physical Plant or EHSO to ensure all safety protocols can be followed and will provide any other assistance needed.

Please see Appendix B and C for a list of “Smudge Friendly” locations and a list of “Smudge with Protocol” locations.

5.2 During the Ceremony

A notification sign must be posted on the door of the room where the smudging will take place. Please refer to the poster provided below in this document which can be printed and utilized. During the smudge, ensure the door remains closed and any location specific procedures are followed. Be aware of the location of any nearby combustible materials and know the location of the nearest fire extinguisher.

5.3 Post Ceremony

Once the aroma of the smudge/tobacco has dissipated, the sign shall be removed. Keep embers in a heat proof container until cold to the touch before discarding.

6 Document History

Version Number	Version Date	Description of Change	Author
1.00	2023-09-22	Initial Release	Caroline Gebel

University of Manitoba

SMUDGING LOCATION

THIS ROOM WILL BE USED AS A SMUDGING LOCATION

A smudging ceremony is an Indigenous tradition which involves the burning of plant medicines including: sweetgrass, sage and/or cedar. This may produce a distinct aroma, but the smoke associated with it is minimal and lasts a very short time.

Under the Province of Manitoba's "The Non-smoker's Health Protection Act" smudging is permitted. The University of Manitoba recognizes that smudging is part of the Indigenous traditional way of life and is therefore permitted on campus.

From:_____ **To:**_____

Date:_____

For more information please visit
https://umanitoba.ca/indigenous/culture-and-protocols

For more information on life safety and procedures, please contact the Environmental Health and Safety Office
EHSO@umanitoba.ca
204-474-6633

APPENDIX A
Resources for Cultural Significance and Protocols

The Indigenous community at UM offers many opportunities to engage with the social, cultural, and spiritual part of your campus experience.

Follow our events calendar to join in a wide range of Indigenous cultural activities and programs throughout the year. Most events are free and open to the entire UM community.

https://eventscalendar.umanitoba.ca/site/indigenous

APPENDIX B
"Smudge Friendly" Locations

Building Name	Room Number	Room Use	Capacity	Assignment
Active Living Centre	274	Multipurpose	54	FKRM
Administration	107C	Office		VP (Indigenous)
	201	Office		President's Office
	202C	Office		AVP (Indigenous)
	208L	Office		Provost and VP Academic
	208F	Office		VProvost Students
	311	Conference	10	University Secretary
BMSB	665C	Conference	12	Ongomiizwin Health Services
Chancellor's Hall	200	Office/Reading room	9	NCTR
	203	Reception	10	
	204	Gallery	23	
	205	Conference	15	
	206	Computer room	13	
	207	Lunch room	12	
	304	Office	2	
	305	Office	2	
	307	Office	2	
	309	Office	3	
	310	Office	3	
	311	Office	1	
Drake	104	Classroom	54	Registrar's Office
	106	Classroom	48	
	115	Classroom	60	
Duff Roblin	N303	Lab		Faculty of Arts
	N311A	Assembly		Faculty of Arts
EITC - 2	221	Lab	30	Faculty of Engineering
	223	Lab	30	
	229	Lab	82	
Education	322	Multipurpose	TBD	Education
Frank Kennedy	203	Multipurpose	59	FKRM
	204	Gym	125	
	205	Bouldering Wall	18	
	206	Gym	149	

	208	Multipurpose	42	
	210	Gym	150	
Helen Glass	113	Lounge	n/a	UMSU
SmartPark Innovation Hub	150	Multipurpose	50	SmartPark
	160	Multipurpose	50	
Isbister	207	Conference	15 - 20	Faculty of Arts
Max Bell	140	Fieldhouse	2000	FKRM
Medical Services	S206E	Study space	28	Ongomiizwin Education
Migizii Agamik	118	Ceremony	26	Indigenous Student Centre
St. John's College	108	Conference	100	St. John's College
Tier	302	Seminar	32	Faculty of Arts
	214	Classroom	36	
University Centre	210	Multipurpose	250	Dining Services
	214 & 218	Multipurpose	200	
	220	Multipurpose	200	
	224A	Multipurpose	40	
	224B	Multipurpose	40	
	224C	Multipurpose	40	
UCollege Lecture	241	Classroom	34	Registrar's Office
Wallace	301	Office	10	Dept. of Environment and Resources
William Norrie Centre	128(A)	Classroom	25	Dean's Office Social Work
	139	Office		Dean's Office Social Work
	140	Office		Dean's Office Social Work
55 Chancellor's Circle	406	Office	TBD	VP (Indigenous)

Appendix C
"Smudge With Protocols" Locations

Building	Room number	Room use	Capacity	Assignment
Isbister	405	Conference	11	Mamawipawin
Robson Hall	200A	Classroom/Lecture Hall	90	Dean's Office Law
	200B	Classroom/Lecture Hall	78	Dean's Office Law
University Centre	521A & B	Multipurpose	40	Student Support
William Norrie Centre	All except 122 to 126, 128, 138, 140	Various	Various	Dean's Office Social Work
	122, 123, 124	Classrooms	25	Registrar's Office
	125	Classroom/Conference	25	
	126	Classroom	30	
65 Dafoe Rd.	223	Classroom/Seminar	50	Centre for Advancement of Teaching and Learning
University College, Pembina Hal, Mary Speechly, and Arthur V. Mauro Residences	Residence rooms and Kitchens		Refer to "Residence Smudging Procedures" Contact Residence Life Office or Residence Life Coordinator to arrange smudging.	