

This sounds like a great initiative to accommodate allergy needs, I'm just wondering if/when fragrance barriers will be addressed.

All forms of public transportation, including access to washrooms, currently pose hazards to people with fragrance sensitivities and allergies.

From air-fresheners, to personal products (used by customers and staff), to products used for cleaning. Trains, planes, taxis, buses (local and long distance), even pedicab drivers can pose a threat if they are wearing fragrance ... If I can't walk there (and back), I can't go.

These disability barriers disproportionately affect multi-marginalized populations. Public transport is often the only option for those living in poverty. A large proportion of users are women. Women have higher rates of poverty. Women account for higher proportion of disabled people. People with disabilities also have a higher rate of poverty.

1 in 3 people have disabilities and health conditions exacerbated by fragrance\*.

The tip of the iceberg on nationally recognized disabilities affected by fragrance exposure:

750,000 Canadians with Multiple Chemical Sensitivity - MCS. (Statscan 2014)

2.7 million Canadians with migraines (Statscan 2010/2011)

3 million Canadians with asthma, [and that doesn't include COPD, RADS, emphysema] (Statscan 2014)

Note that indoor tobacco use previously created similar kinds of hazards and barriers, especially for the conditions listed above (and we managed to sort that out just fine).

These PDFs are from Women's College Hospital (home of the Environmental Health Clinic)

\* <http://www.eha-ab.ca/acfp/docs/GreenHealthCareGuide.pdf>

<http://www.womenscollegehospital.ca/connect/scent-free.pdf>

I also recommend following the work of the Task Force on Environmental Health

<http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/environmentalhealth/>

Thanks,

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