

Created 1997

Smoke Scenes.... Kim started smoking when she was 11 years old. Now at age 16, as a pack a day smoker, she has smoked approximately 38,500 cigarettes and spent

- ⇨ 52% of Canadians have never smoked.
- ⇨ 29% of Canadians are regular smokers.
- ⇨ 90% of smokers become addicted to tobacco before they are 15 years old.
- ⇨ 6,000 new smokers enter the market every month in Canada - that's over 200 per day!
- ⇨ The average age of experimentation with tobacco is only 13.
- ⇨ In 1991, the youth cigarette market (ages 12-19) was estimated at \$452,199,730 - obviously big business.
- ⇨ Tobacco is a "gateway" drug i.e. the use of psychoactive drugs is almost always preceded by the use of tobacco.
- ⇨ Youth age 15 who smoke now are twice as likely to die prematurely, as are 15 year olds who never start to smoke.
- ⇨ People can become addicted to cigarettes by smoking as few as 3 cigarettes per day.
- ⇨ In 1994, 26% of males and 29% of females age 15-19 were smokers.
- ⇨ In 1992, there were more than 3 million hospital days resulting from tobacco-related causes.
- ⇨ Workplace smoking causes increased absenteeism, higher maintenance costs for furniture and equipment, and a greater risk for liability for employee illness caused by second-hand smoke.
- ⇨ Smokers are absent from work 50% more often than non-smokers, have twice as many on-the-job accidents, and are 50% more likely to be hospitalized than workers who do not smoke.

close to \$7,000 on her habit. If cigarettes stay the same price (ya, sure) and Kim doesn't quit smoking,

by the time she is 50 years old, she will have spent over \$75,000 on cigarettes.

*Many aboriginal people use tobacco for medicinal and spiritual purposes. This is not the same as recreational, potentially addictive tobacco use.