

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF LFM

Dear members of Leash Free Mississauga,

As some of you know, our City Councilors have agreed to re-open the Leash Free Zones (LFZ) in Mississauga. Barr anything adverse happening, this is scheduled to happen on June 01, 2020.

I realize that everybody and their pups are excited our parks have been included in Phase 2 of the reopening measures for the city, but I would be remiss if I didn't remind us all that we're still very much in the middle of a pandemic. The reopening of the LFZ is part of a slow and measured approach in hopes that cases don't spike in our region. I am hoping people will be able to self-monitor and avoid the areas if they think they might be infected or are starting to display any related symptoms. Not adhering to the rules can ruin this opportunity for all of us to get our pups out and running/playing in our Leash Free Parks.

A few key notes to keep in mind:

- Social distancing is going to be key in order to curb the community spread of COVID-19 and is mandated by the city. There will be signs posted up at the parks as a gentle reminder to keep our distance and avoid touching surfaces unnecessarily.
- I believe the city was also toying with the ideas to keep the gates locked in the "open" position in hopes that there would be multiple surfaces to use to push them open, thereby curbing the number of people touching one surface while entering and exiting the premises.
- If you are coming in and see that someone else is trying to exit the park, please stand back at least 2m or 6ft from the gate and let the other patrons exit first.
- We will need to limit the number of people that come to the park as well. Please don't bring more than one or two humans per dog.
- Consider leaving children at home whenever this is remotely feasible. If you do bring little humans to the park, please make sure that they stay at your side and don't wander away. Younger children, especially, may not be vigilant enough when it comes to the spread of COVID-19 and the dangers it poses to the rest of the community.
- If you are able to, please bring hand sanitizer with you and use it after touching any surfaces at the park and avoid touching your face.
- I know this has been noted before, but if you are experiencing any symptoms or have close contact with anybody experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, please do not use the LFZ. Please make use to utilize the COVID screening tools that are readily available online prior to your initial and following visits to the LFZ.

I would also like to take this time to thank everybody from the city who's worked hard to make this possible. A big huge thank you goes out to all of you, our members, for your patience and diligence during this time as well. I have no doubt we will all be able to adhere to the rules in order to continue to keep our LFZ open.

Sincerely,

Angela Puliyodil

President, Leash Free Mississauga