

SCHEDULE 1 TO THE MINUTES OF
THE COUNCIL MEETING OF
MONDAY, July 13, 2009.

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Dear Mayor and Council,

Thank you for your time.

I am speaking to you today regarding the Dogs In Parks Task Force Report and specifically the section that recommends professional dog walkers be permitted to walk up to 4 dogs off leash.

We're pleased to see that the Task Force is recognizing professional dog walkers however the current by-law allows any person to walk up to 3 dogs off leash so the Task Force proposal is only recommending 1 more off leash dog for professional dog walkers to handle than the general public.

Most municipalities in Canada that recognize professional dog walkers allow at least 6 dogs off-lead.

We can easily handle 6-8 off-leash dogs because we pre-screen all the dogs we take on as clients to ensure they're friendly, well socialized and well behaved and we are always working on their obedience skills when they're with us to ensure they listen to our verbal commands.

We adhere to a set of protocols which ensure we are respectful of the parks, the other park users and the environment.

Dogs that don't behave properly are put back on leash.

Dogs that display aggression are not permitted to come out with us for group off-leash walks

We are requesting that the number of off-leash dogs being proposed by the Task Force be adjusted to a more reasonable number.

Thank you for your time.