Request to Initiate the Process to Create an Off-Leash Dog Park Near S.A.D.R.A Park along the Hydro Lands - by Councillor Cesar Palacio, seconded by Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker

* Notice of this Motion has been given.
* This Motion is subject to referral to the Parks and Environment Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.

Recommendations
Councillor Cesar Palacio, seconded by Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker, recommends that:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, to initiate the process to create an off-leash dog park in or near S.A.D.R.A Park (including the Hydro parcel west of the community allotment garden).

Summary
Currently dog lovers in the area are left with little choice but to let their dogs run loose in the local Park and school yard causing unnecessary alarm, panic and trepidation amongst young school-aged children, mothers with strollers, and the elderly.

I concur with local residents that off leash Dog Parks offer important health benefits to our pets and to the community as a whole.

Off-leash Dog Parks have been attributed to helping clean up crime as the increased number of people especially during after dark hours act as a deterrent for people wishing to use the park for criminal activity.

Dog owners as a group are the most frequent users of parks, utilizing parks in all four seasons, in all types of weather, every day of the year.

As the local Councillor, I welcome these types of facilities and I will be submitting a petition, signed by over 100 residents, in full support of this initiative.

(Submitted to City Council on August 25, 26 and 27 as MM55.22)

Background Information (City Council)
Member Motion - MM55.22