

*Good afternoon, Friends,*

*Many thanks for all of your responses and comments. The commitment of you, our membership, is terrific and strong. Your support is essential. Thank you very much.*

*We received the email [below] this afternoon from executives at the TRCA, in response to our repeated emails of concern regarding the recent weekends' destructive and illegal all-night parties on The Spit/Tommy Thompson Park.*

*From this email, and the conversations we had preceding it, we believe that the TRCA and City are taking this very seriously. It is our understanding that there will be deterrence and enforcement in place this weekend.*

*Should you encounter any damaging activities this weekend, or on subsequent ones, please do not confront the group, but back away and phone the Toronto Police Service non-emergency line at 416-808-2222 . As well, please email the TRCA at [ttp@trca.ca](mailto:ttp@trca.ca) and email the City, and please cc us at this email address.*

*Many thanks...may this be a quiet and uneventful weekend at The Spit/ Tommy Thompson Park.  
Cheers*

*Friends of the Spit*

*Celebrating 44 years: since 1977, Friends has been advocating for the entire Leslie Street Spit and Baselands to be a car-free Public Urban Wilderness.*

*Without Friends of the Spit advocacy, The Spit and Baselands would not exist as they do today: a wonderful urban wilderness, enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of visitors yearly.*

*Good afternoon,*

*Thank you for reaching out regarding late-night parties at the Spit. Late-night parties have been an issue across Waterfront Parks this summer, resulting in an ongoing assessment of how best to prioritize available enforcement resources, for TRCA, City of Toronto Municipal Licensing and Standards enforcement team, and Toronto Police Service (TPS). TRCA is working closely with our partners at City of Toronto, PortsToronto and TPS to prevent future events from taking place at the Spit.*

*Late-night parties are not frequent occurrences at the Spit, however we are aware of two last weekend. These parties have secret and sophisticated organization and are not publicly promoted, we therefore cannot predict where or when they will occur. TRCA became aware of the parties after they occurred. TRCA has been provided license plate information for vehicles associated with the parties this past weekend and our Enforcement and Compliance team is investigating the matter. Staff have also inspected the areas of the park where the late-night parties took place and can report that the impact to the sites is minimal, and the garbage has been removed.*

*In early April and following up in early July, TRCA arranged for directed patrols of Tommy Thompson Park with TPS 55 Division Community Response Unit. These patrols occur regularly during scheduled shifts if the unit is not attending to other active situations in the city. We are also working with PortsToronto and the TPS Marine Unit to address issues of large boat parties within the waterbodies around the Spit.*

*Throughout 2021 TRCA has been working tirelessly to address issues of non-compliance and inappropriate uses at Tommy Thompson Park. In April 2021 the Weekend Nature Interpretation program was re-instated with an additional staff added in conjunction with increased enforcement patrols by TRCA and the City of Toronto to protect the site and improve public knowledge and appreciation of this unique park and its ecosystems. This has been successful, with significant reductions in reports of dogs in the park, as well as reports of other minor infractions. TRCA also initiated wildlife protection programs including fencing, signage, and outreach volunteers to manage public interactions with sensitive wildlife.*

*TRCA and the City of Toronto have been working to prevent unauthorized vehicle access into the park, including installation of barriers where gaps by gates were identified, and replacing pins and locks when they are cut/removed by trespassers. TRCA and the City of Toronto have also been working to maintain regulatory signage in the park that is repeatedly removed by vandals almost immediately upon installation. These are ongoing issues, and we are actively working on solutions. We have again requested increased TPS patrols and have confirmed TPS will be on site this weekend to address inappropriate after hours use of the site.*

*Should you encounter a party at the Spit please report it to the Toronto Police Service non-emergency line at 416-808-2222 as soon as possible. These parties are not publicly promoted, so if you have any information in advance of a party, please let us know; any tips are appreciated. Tips and after-the-fact reports can be sent to [ttp@trca.ca](mailto:ttp@trca.ca).*

*Best regards,*