

Victoria Day Fireworks Enforcement

Licensing

Enforcement staff issued 12 licences for fireworks vendors. Seven licences were for portable display unit sales and five were for annual fireworks sales. Licenced fireworks vendors are permitted to sell fireworks for the ten days preceding Victoria Day, which began on May 12th.

On May 12th, Municipal Licensing Enforcement Officers (MLEOs) began tracking and monitoring Mississauga businesses to identify fireworks sales within the City. For the 12 licensed fireworks vendors, MLEOs worked with the vendor during the application process to ensure that they were compliant with the regulations. Additionally, MLEOs conducted 510 proactive inspections and identified 11 unlicensed sellers. MLEOs issued a Notice of Contravention (NOC) to the vendors to cease the sale of fireworks and attended the location every 24 hours to ensure compliance.

Complaint Response

On Sunday May 21st and Monday May 22nd from 6pm-2am, 14 Municipal Licensing Enforcement Officers (MLEOs), two Analysts, and the Director were on shift to address fireworks use complaints. Efforts were focused on seven City parks that have previously received high numbers of complaints about fireworks misuse.

The 14 MLEOs began their shift stationed in pairs at each of the identified parks. When fireworks use complaints were received, the pair of officers separated into designated areas to respond. Analysts were utilized to verify call information, ensure service requests had all details necessary for an officer response, distribute MLEOs accordingly, and provide support for service request escalations.

On May 21st, MLEOs focused on responding to service requests since fireworks were not permitted, while on May 22nd, MLEOs focused on providing public education in the identified parks then pivoted to responding to service requests after midnight when fireworks were no longer permitted. Although, typically service requests related to parks, schools and roadways are not Enforcement's responsibility, MLEOs responded to collect information on potential violations, determine accuracy of complaint information, and response times.

Overall, Enforcement received 124 fireworks misuse service requests between Friday May 19th, 12 am and Tuesday May 23rd, 5 am. 63 service requests were received on May 21st and 50 on May 22nd. MLEOs conducted onsite inspections of 86 service requests with an average response time of 27 minutes from call in-take to officer arriving on scene. A further 17 service requests were areas identified for future monitoring. Other service requests were either duplications, out of jurisdiction or provided general feedback. Staff also engaged 167 residents in parks to educate them on by-law requirements.

Canada Day Fireworks Enforcement

Licensing

Enforcement staff issued 12 licences for fireworks vendors. Seven licences were for portable display unit sales and five were for annual fireworks sale. Licenced fireworks vendors were permitted to sell fireworks for the ten days preceding Canada Day, which began on June 21st.

On June 21st, Municipal Licensing Enforcement Officers (MLEOs) began tracking and monitoring Mississauga businesses to identify fireworks sales within the City. For the 12 licensed fireworks vendors, MLEOs worked with the vendor during the application process to ensure that they were compliant with the regulations to sell fireworks. Additionally, MLEOs conducted 466 proactive inspections and identified zero unlicensed sellers

Complaint Response

Fireworks use for the Canada Day holiday were permitted on Saturday, July 1st until midnight. It was identified that given the time of year it was likely that contraventions of the By-law would be prevalent on the evening before and after Canada Day. On Friday June 30 and Sunday July 2, 14 MLEOs, two Analysts, and the Director were on shift to address firework use complaints.

Overall, Enforcement received 52 fireworks misuse service requests between Thursday June 29th and Monday July 3rd. 6 service requests were received on June 30th, 19 on July 1st and 17 on July 2nd. MLEOs conducted onsite inspections of 44 service requests, while three service requests were identified for future monitoring and five were duplications or provided general feedback. Staff also engaged 62 residents in parks to education them on by-law requirements.

For the 44 complaints where officers provided an onsite response, Officers made contact with people in only four instances. The average response time during the Enforcement operation on June 30th and July 2nd was 22 minutes. This is calculated from call in-take to an officer arriving on scene.