Guiding Principles for Reopening CIMC’s Building for On-Site Activities

CIMC teachers, staff, and board of directors are in the process of deciding how and when the Center will reopen for in-person programs. We are considering the needs and safety of our teachers, our staff and center resident, CIMC Members and volunteers, and all the yogis who attend programs.

Guidelines from the U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC), and state and local governments continue to evolve. To work thoughtfully within these changing conditions, we’ve established a set of guidelines that will shape our decision-making process:

• CIMC is committed to ensuring that its offerings of the Dharma are accessible to all. To support our diverse community as equitably as possible, we will continue to provide a robust schedule of online programs even after our building fully reopens.

• For in-person programs, CIMC may require all participants to adhere to specific policies and practices intended to create a safer environment for all. These will be finalized closer to the reopening dates.

• While there are many personal views and opinions about what would constitute appropriate policies and practices for in-person attendance at the Center, CIMC is committed to “follow the science” in making decisions as to which policies and practices to implement. Specifically, CIMC will look to guidance provided by the CDC and to guidelines and/or regulations imposed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the City of Cambridge with respect to vaccination, social distancing, mask wearing, air filtration, cleaning, covid-testing, etc.

• CIMC will also carefully assess the reopening policies and practices of related Dharma organizations, such as IMS and Spirit Rock, and other community Dharma Centers to identify best practices. We recognize that the requirements of residential centers may be different from what is required or helpful in a non-residential Dharma center such as CIMC.

• We will reopen the building very gradually. In the fall, we plan to offer several day-long or weekend retreats in person along with access for Members.

• CIMC will endeavor to maximize the safety and well-being of all for in-person programs. CIMC believes that our community will take personal responsibility for their own health and well-being -- as well as the health and well-being of their fellow community members -- as they make decisions whether or not to attend in-person events at the Center.

• We will continually review our policies and practices and will update them in response to changing circumstances.

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