



BC CONFEDERATION OF PARENT ADVISORY COUNCILS

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July 7, 2010

The Honourable Margaret MacDiarmid
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

**RE: B.C. CONFEDERATION OF PARENT ADVISORY COUNCILS MEMBER RESOLUTION 2009.25
TRANSPORTATION AND BUSSING**

Dear Minister MacDiarmid,

We would like to bring the following resolution on transportation funding to your attention. This resolution was passed at our 2009 AGM. We do so at this time because we have noticed a substantial increase in the number of parent inquiries related to districts charging a fee for bussing service. This has lead many parents to question the validity of these fees.

2009.25 Transportation and Bussing

That BCCPAC advocate that the Ministry of Education provide transportation funding that reflects the true costs of providing transportation to ensure that children have access to public education.

As such, that BCCPAC convey to the Minister of Education that:

- a) the solution to a shortfall in transportation funding is not user fees;*
- b) transportation funding needs to be increased to reflect true costs within a consistent framework;*
- c) transportation funding needs to be allocated in ways that fairly reflect differences in circumstances between school districts; and*
- d) the Minister should deliver the promised transportation funding review by no later than October 15, 2009, with implementation for the 2010/2011 budget year.*

While the deadline in line d) has passed, we kindly ask that your Ministry review the funding for transportation as soon as feasible. Province wide funding for school transportation and housing has remained constant at \$85,705,613 since at least 2002/2003. With the substantial increases in transportation costs over this time period this figure is well overdue for review. We welcome an opportunity to discuss this issue with you at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your valued time.

Sincerely,

Ann Whiteaker, President & CEO
Supporting student success through parent involvement