



eBulletin

BC Tripartite Education Agreement
Supporting First Nation Student Success

March 4, 2019

In this issue:

- [Transportation, BC Public Schools](#)
- [Funding Estimator Tool and User Manual](#)

Transportation, BC Public Schools

The 2018 BC Tripartite Education Agreement (BCTEA) includes a new commitment by BC, Canada and FNESC to an innovative approach to ensuring adequate and appropriate transportation services for First Nations students who attend public schools. BCTEA introduces new tools such as Joint Transportation Plans and the targeting of transportation funding to ensure that First Nations students receive the transportation services they need.

Joint First Nation Student Transportation Plans

Through BCTEA, Boards of Education and First Nations are required to work together to develop Joint First Nation Student Transportation Plans for First Nation students living on-reserve who attend BC public schools. The Plans are to include strategies to address various modes of transportation, such as walking, driving, bussing, ferry or water taxi, depending on local needs, as well as transportation to extracurricular activities.

To support First Nations and Boards of Education, a set of documents and templates were distributed by email to School Boards and First Nations in early February.

- [BCTEA Transportation Letter](#), Feb. 1, 2019
- Attachment A [Guiding Principles](#) for Joint Transportation Plans
- Attachment B [Submission Requirements](#)
- Attachment C [Transportation Service Worksheet](#)

To provide further support to First Nations and school districts in the process of developing their Joint Transportation Plans, the Parties have compiled and answered the questions raised in the following document: [BCTEA Joint First Nations Student Transportation Plans Q&A](#).

Information will be forthcoming specific to transportation plans for First Nations under Treaty/Self-government Agreements.

Signed Joint Transportation Plans are due by **April 5, 2019 (new date)**
to educ.srsd@gov.bc.ca.

First Nation Student Transportation Fund

Beginning in the 2019/20 school year, a First Nation Student Transportation Fund will support the transportation of First Nations students to public schools. This funding will flow from Canada to BC, and BC will then allocate the fund to school districts by way of a special purpose grant.

This is not new funding; rather, it is existing funding that will now be targeted to ensure it is only used to address the transportation needs of First Nations students attending BC public schools. According to BCTEA Schedule G (2.2), the base amount for the First Nation Student Transportation Fund for the 2019/20 School Year will be equivalent to the amount of the Student Location Factor that Canada pays to BC in the Operating Grant Manual in the 2018/19 School Year, paid by Canada for First Nation Students. Consistent with Schedule G (3.6), other transportation- related factors that Canada pays to BC will be included (e.g., Transportation Supplement).

A Tripartite Transportation Committee will be assessing the Joint Transportation Plans and School Boards will be required to report on the spending through audited financial statements. FNEsc is a member of the Tripartite Committee.

Learn more about Transportation

1. See [Transportation Schedule G](#) of the BCTEA for details about the transportation commitments
2. Find additional transportation resources www.fnesc.ca/bctea/transportation
3. For questions about the Joint Plan submission requirements, please contact Caroline Ponsford at caroline.ponsford@gov.bc.ca.

Related Events

The following events will include opportunities for further discussion and information about the transportation strategy and implementation process:

Accountability Strategy Sessions to Support First Nation Students (for invited First Nations *without* Local Education Agreements). Nanaimo (Mar. 11), Vancouver (Mar. 12), Terrace (Mar. 15), Prince George (Apr. 8) Kamloops (Apr. 15).

Provincial Meeting on LEAs and Transportation (for invited First Nations *with* LEAs). Vancouver, Apr. 5, 2019.

Invitations to these events have been sent to eligible First Nations. For more information please contact Estefania Solis, Administrative Assistant, Communications and Policy at estefanias@fnesc.ca

BCTEA Funding Estimator Tool and User Manual

The funding formula for First Nations schools in BC was established under BCTEA and it is based on the BC Ministry of Education's funding model for public schools, with specific adaptations to reflect the unique circumstances of First Nations.

The BCTEA funding formula calculates First Nations schools' funding allocations using individual enrolment data and factors that apply specifically to each school. Typically, these factors are constant for a given year and the funding amount is primarily driven by enrolment numbers.

To support First Nations to forecast their future school funding in the context of changing year-to-year enrolment, a [BCTEA Funding Estimator Tool](#) and [User Manual](#) (February 2019 version) are available.

We welcome your questions and feedback on these resources.

Feedback and Support

For the latest BCTEA information, support contacts and past issues of the eBulletin, please visit our BCTEA webpage.



The 2018 [BC Tripartite Education Agreement: Supporting First Nation Student Success \(BCTEA\)](#), signed by the BC First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC), Canada, and British Columbia, and witnessed in support of the execution of the agreement by the First Nations Schools Association (FNOSA), is intended to promote systemic shifts and collective efforts that will support improved educational outcomes of all First Nation students in British Columbia.

[Learn more about BCTEA](#)

Copyright © 2019 First Nations Education Steering Committee. All rights reserved.

You are receiving this newsletter from the First Nations Education Steering Committee, Suite 113-100 Park Royal South, West Vancouver, BC V7T 1A2 info@fnesc.ca Toll-free in BC 1-877-422-3672.

[Unsubscribe from the BCTEA eBulletin](#)