BCTEA 2025/26 Joint Transportation Plan Status Quo Letter

March 10, 2025

To: School District Superintendent
 School District Secretary Treasurer
 First Nation Chief and Council
 First Nation Education Coordinators

Re: Joint First Nation Student Transportation Plan for 2025/26

Dear Colleagues,

We appreciate all the work that goes into the development and submission of BCTEA Joint Transportation Plans. A school district and First Nation with a Status Quo Joint Plan may submit the *Joint Transportation Plan Status Quo Letter (Status Quo Letter)* in lieu of a completed *Joint Transportation Plan Worksheet* (do not need to submit a *Joint Transportation Plan Worksheet* for 2025/26) if:

* the services have not changed from last year (the request includes the same schools on the same route)
* the request is for To/From school only (not applicable if you have Parental Assistance or Special Support) and;
* the requested amount does not exceed 8% over the previous year’s approved amount.

It is required that school districts consult with the First Nation regarding transportation services. If the *Status Quo Letter* is applicable,both parties sign this document indicating agreement with the BCTEA request for the 2025/26 school year. Email confirmation that there is agreement will be accepted and considered a signed *Status Quo Letter.*

Extracurricular transportation funding will no longer be allocated to each district automatically. Extracurricular funding may be requested for up to the amount received by the school district in 2024/25 as indicated on the 2024/2025 Approval Letter.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts and collaboration to support this important initiative. If you have any questions, please contact Kristine Heaney, A/Project Director, Ministry of Education and Child Care, at bctea@gov.bc.ca.

**To be completed by First Nation and school district**

Name of First Nation:

First Nation Contact (Name, Title, Phone, Email):

Name of School District:

School District Contact (Name, Title, Phone, Email):

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2024/25** | **2025/26** |
| **Total number of First Nation Students** associated with this BCTEA funding request. |  |  |
| **School District’s financial contribution** (prior to accessing BCTEA funding) for First Nation Students living on reserve requiring Transportation Services (sources include the Proxy[[1]](#footnote-2)). |  |  |
| **Other sources of funding (describe):** |  |  |
| **Amount of BCTEA funding approved for 2024/25 and BCTEA funding requested for 2025/26.**NOTE: The funding requested for 2025/26 may not exceed the funding approved in 2024/25 by more than 8%. |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Pro-rated service?**  | **2025/26 Total Cost (SD Contribution + BCTEA Request)** | **Identify each service and describe calculation used for pro-rating services in cases students off reserve are on the same bus. (e.g. cost of service divided by ridership or cost of service divided by distance)** |
| [ ]  Yes  |  |  |

Please briefly describe the factors that drove the change in costs by category. Ineligible costs include driver phone, licensing, training, criminal record checks, amortization, etc.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **2025/26 Change in Cost % (where applicable)** | **Please explain what contributed to the change in costs** |
| Driver salary |  |  |
| Driver benefits |  |  |
| Bus maintenance (provide examples) |  |  |
| Bus insurance |  |  |
| Fuel |  |  |
| Other (specify) |  |  |

**Extracurricular funding** may be requested for up to the allocation received by the school district in 2024/25 as noted in the 2024/2025 Approval Letter. This is the total amount for all First Nations Students served by the school district.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Extracurricular Amount Requested | $ |

The school district has met with the First Nation to discuss extracurricular activities.

[ ]  Yes [ ] No

Comments:

**Signatures or email confirmation to the *Status Quo Letter* imply that pick-up and drop-off points have been reviewed for safety considerations.**

**Chief of the First Nation or delegate (Name, Title, and Signature) Date Signed**

**Board Chair or delegate (Name, Title, and Signature) Date Signed**

1. Under BCTEA, there is a portion of the First Nation Student Rate (FNSR) derived from the Student Location Factor (SLF), Supplementary Student Location Factor (SSLF) and Provincial Student Transportation Fund (STF) that is considered a “proxy” for funding First Nation Student transportation. This amount is the minimum of the FNSR that should be applied to the transportation of First Nations Students living on reserve. This proxy amount can be supplemented by other funding from the FNSR and/or from provincial operating funding and special grants. As per BCTEA Schedule G, this amount was meant to be removed from the FNSR and it has not been removed. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)