

School District No. 71 (Comox Valley)

District Principal, Health and Safety

607 Cumberland Road
Courtenay, BC V9N 7G5
Fax (250) 334-5552
Telephone (250) 334-5516

September 25, 2014

INCLEMENT WEATHER and BUSING TO MOUNT WASHINGTON

The following procedures have been developed with SD71 approved charter bus services to ensure the safety of our students while travelling to and from Mount Washington in periods of inclement weather. Often poor road or weather conditions are not evident until the ascent of Mount Washington parkway begins.

- Prior to loading the bus, the principal and the bus company must check on conditions of the Strathcona Parkway with Emcon Services. Call 1-866-353-3136 and speak to the operator and ask for specific road conditions on the Strathcona Parkway. Emcon will provide you with up-to-the-minute road conditions.
- Two-way contact between Emcon Services and the bus company (through the bus company offices or directly with driver and on board school staff) should be available at all times during the drive up and down the mountain.
- Road conditions should be monitored during the day by the bus driver and Emcon Services to ensure a safe trip down, especially if it is snowing or the temperature is below freezing.
- Buses heading to Mount Washington will carry tire chains and the driver will know how to put them on.
- If road conditions dictate, plowing and sanding runs should be coordinated so that the bus can meet the plow and follow it up and down Strathcona Parkway.
- If the bus is heading up the mountain and the driver discovers conditions worse than anticipated, returning to the school may be the only option as student safety is paramount. The bus company will advise both Emcon Services and Mount Washington when this happens. In addition, the school and the District Principal, Health and Safety must be notified that the students are being brought back to the school.

Approved charter bus services for SD71:

First Student:	(250) 703-2656
Forest Transport Services Ltd.:	(250) 248-4525
Destiny River Adventures Ltd.:	(250) 287-4800

Student and staff safety is our main concern at all times.

Thank you.

Paul Berry

District Principal, Health and Safety
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Distribution: All SD71 Schools
Emcon Services
First Student
Forest Transport Services Ltd.
Destiny River Adventures Ltd.