

School District No. 71 (Comox Valley)

Board of Education of School District No. 71

607 Cumberland Road Courtenay, B.C. V9N 7G5 Fax (250) 334 5552 Telephone (250) 334 5500

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

November 23, 2021

Re: Temporary travel and fuel restrictions

Dear families, staff, and Comox Valley Schools community:

The Province of B.C. has implemented two temporary emergency <u>Orders</u> designed to restrict non-essential travel in some areas and to prioritize fuel for essential vehicles. These Orders will be in place until the end of November.

School district staff are deemed essential service workers, so we can safely maintain the operation of our school. Keeping schools open for learning and student safety are our priorities.

As a result, Comox Valley Schools is taking steps to reduce fuel usage to the greatest extent possible, as well as implementing travel restrictions measures for our schools.

The school district is implementing the following measures for the duration of the orders:

- postponing games and sporting events at all levels for the next ten days
- postponing field trips (except for trips that are accessible via public transit or walking)
- postponing some in-person events
- conducting meetings online wherever possible (board and committee)
- re-scheduling school activities that require parents/caregivers to drive
- encouraging carpooling or utilizing public transit
- encouraging active school travel (walk, bike, scooter)
- continuing with in-school practices but encouraging carpooling and shared pick-ups

Thankfully, our community was largely spared from the severe damage we saw elsewhere in B.C. However, the Province's fuel supply is limited, and we are asking the community to take these restrictions seriously and to do their part to limit fuel consumption.

We will provide updates on these measures as soon as new information becomes available.

Respectfully,

Tom Demeo

Superintendent and CEO of Schools