



Section Inclement Weather Bus Cancellations	Page 1 of 4
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<p>Statement</p>	<p>The decision to cancel school transportation is the responsibility of the school bus operators in conjunction with the Manager of Transportation.</p> <p>When transportation services are cancelled, the schools remain open. If a bus route or transportation services are cancelled in the morning, this decision remains in effect for the school day. Buses will not operate in the afternoon.</p> <p>Ultimately, it is the responsibility of parents and/or guardians to decide if they want their child(ren) to attend school on inclement weather days. If bus transportation is cancelled, it is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to provide transportation.</p>
<p>Procedures:</p>	<p><u>Prior to School Opening Time</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The decision to cancel transportation due to inclement weather shall be made based on information from Environment Canada, OPP, MTO and local road superintendents from the Rainy River District; 2. Bus operators may use -35 C (without wind chill) as a guideline as whether to implement a two hour delay prior to starting the route. The two hour delay will be communicated amongst the bus operators, RRDTS & local radio stations. Connecting bus routes must agree to the two hour delay in order to keep the route system operating efficiently. If the decision is to cancel the route then this cancellation will be communicated to all other connecting bus operators, RRDTS and local radio stations. 3. It is the responsibility of the Operators to contact their designated Liaison Officer with cancellation or delay information; 4. Connecting bus routes must have their liaison officers contact each other to keep them informed as to the decision to run or not in order to keep the route system operating efficiently. 5. After the Liaison Officer has received route decisions on all the routes in his/her area, one phone call will be made by the Liaison Officer to the local radio stations, if necessary, to cancel or delay routes in that area; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ B93 (Fort Frances) Phone: (807) 274-5341 ➤ CKPR 93.5 (Atikokan) Phone: (807) 346-2600 ➤ KQ92 (Warroad) Phone: (218) 386-3024 ➤ CKDR (Dryden) Phone: 1-800-465-7200 ➤ CBC (Thunder Bay) Phone: (807) 625-5002



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<p>Procedures... continued:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. The Liaison Officer(s) will then notify the RRDTSC as soon as possible of any delays; 7. The Manager of Transportation will update the RRDTS website to inform the public as to which routes are cancelled and/or delayed;
	<p><u>While in Transit</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The RRDTS recognizes the need for driver instruction where a bus begins the student pick-up and must cancel without full completion of the run due to unsafe and/or deteriorating driving conditions. If this situation does occur and elementary students are involved the driver will do the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Stop the bus, parking in a safe location; ➤ Notify the Liaison Officer and/or Base Operator and Transportation Officer. 2. The school designate will contact the students' parents/guardians advising of location of pick-up; 3. The driver will wait on board with students to ensure their safety; 4. Students are not permitted to leave the bus without their respective guardian or designated caregiver. For rural home stops, the driver may return the student to the residence if the driver is able to contact and receive approval from a student guardian present at the home. <p><u>After Students are in School</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The bus contractors/drivers will advise whether, in their opinion, conditions are unsafe for transportation of students. They will then contact the RRDTS Office with their request. 2. Drivers shall monitor their radios and ensure that their buses are fuelled and ready for transportation. 3. After the Liaison Officer has received route recommendations on all the routes in his/her area, he/she will call the Transportation Officer with a recommendation for the designated area.



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	<p>4. The Transportation Officer, based on information gathered from drivers, MTO, Principals and weather stations, shall consult with the Manager of Transportation who will then consult with the Director of the Boards, or his/her designate whether to send buses home early.</p> <p>5. The Transportation Officer, or designate, shall fax Principals co-ordinating a dismissal time relative to regular dismissal time. This dismissal time needs to allow a minimum 1.5 hours lead time to allow for parents to be contacted.</p> <p>6. Principals or designates will notify parents or emergency contacts. If no satisfactory drop-off place is found for a student, the student is to remain at the school.</p> <p>7. The Transportation Officer and/or Principals will contact Liaison Officers with their revised dismissal times. Liaison Officers will call contractors and drivers in their area until all buses are notified.</p> <p>8. The Transportation Officer will contact the appropriate radio stations and provide them with a precise statement as to which buses are departing early:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B93 (Fort Frances) – Central & East <i>Phone: (807) 274-5341 Fax: (807) 274-2033</i> • CKPR 93.5 (Atikokan) <i>Phone: (907) 346-2600</i> • KQ92 (Warroad)- Far West <i>Phone: (218) 386-3024 Fax: (218) 386-3090</i> • CKDR (Dryden) <i>Phone: 1-800-465-7200 Fax: 1-807-223-5090</i> • CBC (Thunder Bay) –Entire District <i>Phone: (807) 625-5002 Fax: (807) 624-5035</i> <p>9. Couchiching, Nigigoonsiminikaaning, Seine River, and Mitaanjigamiing, Manitou, Naicatchewenin, Big Island, and Big Grassy buses will be notified by the Transportation Officer, or designate, where possible, to co-ordinate radio message and departure times.</p> <p>10. Schools will have departing students ready to leave at the appropriate designated time. Town students who ride on rural buses may be expected to depart early on the regular routes.</p> <p>11. Where one school or area operates sufficiently without impact on other bus routes or other schools, the</p>
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	<p>principal, after consultation with Transportation Officer, may make an independent decision to cancel or delay bus transportation for the day or send buses home early. In this situation, the principal, or designate, will contact all parents directly.</p> <p><u>The Second Day</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Where students have been bused home early on one day and weather forecasts indicate the situation is to continue on the next day, the RRDTSC and Director or designate may decide to delay bus service the next morning by two hours.2. This decision shall be announced on local radio stations later on the day of early dismissal as well as the next morning. <p>The Manager of Transportation will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Check and assess the temperatures in all areas where buses travel using Environment Canada’s temperatures by 5:30 a.m.2. Receive confirmation by 6:15 a.m. from the Liaison Officer of each division on whether buses will be cancelled.3. Post the inclement weather announcement to the RRDTSC web site by 6:30 a.m. to inform the public of the decision to cancel buses4. Have Operator and/or Liaison Officer notify all schools of cancellation. <p>The Principal or designate will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Be available to receive the inclement weather bus cancellation call from the Liaison Officer and/or the RRDTSC.
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