

BACK TO SCHOOL TRAFFIC

With kids heading back to school, the roads get busier and there's no better time to focus on road safety.

School buses are back on the roads, kids are walking and cycling to school and busy parents are dropping kids off. With the extra congestion, drivers need to be vigilant and remember to slow down and pay attention.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- **WHEN SHARING THE ROAD WITH SCHOOL BUSES**
- **WHEN SHARING THE ROAD WITH PEDESTRIANS**



BC Forest Safety

Safety is good business

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SHARING THE ROAD WITH SCHOOL BUSES

When you're driving behind a bus, allow a greater following distance to provide more time to stop when the red lights start flashing. Drivers **MUST** stop when a school bus is stopped and has its red signal-lights flashing and side stop sign out. Do not proceed until the bus moves and the overhead red signal-lights have stopped flashing and the stop sign is pulled back in.

- Never pass a bus from behind or drive past it if it is stopped to load or unload passengers. If red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended, traffic in both directions must stop.
- The 10 foot area around a school bus is the most dangerous for children. Stop far enough back to allow space for kids to safely enter and exit the bus.
- Be alert. Children often are unpredictable and may dart into traffic.

SHARING THE ROAD WITH YOUNG PEDESTRIANS

- Do not block crosswalks when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn.
- Observe school zone speed limits of 30kms/h between 8am to 5pm. Penalties for speeding violations are strict in school zones and could cost double the fine or even a license suspension.
- When crosswalk flashers are blinking in a school zone, stop and yield to pedestrians crossing the crosswalk or intersection.
- Stay alert and stop for kids crossing the street and obey crossing guards.
- Take extra care to watch for children in school zones, near playgrounds and parks and in residential areas.
- Never honk or rev your engine to scare a pedestrian, even if you have the right of way. Be patient and calm.
- Never pass a vehicle in a school zone. They may have stopped for pedestrians crossing the road which you may be unable to see.

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