

From: [Karen Matthews](#)
To: [Karen Matthews](#)
Subject: C Leary FW: Get more electric school buses on the road in BC
Date: September 13, 2022 2:10:30 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Colleen Leary <>
Sent: September 11, 2022 8:47 PM
To: Charlene Mckay <Charlene.Mckay@sd68.bc.ca>
Subject: Get more electric school buses on the road in BC

CAUTION: External Message

Dear MLA Doug Routley, (and 'cc'd to school board chair)

I'm writing today because I want to see BC switch over to electric school buses on the shortest possible time frame.

Diesel exhaust is linked to a wide array of negative health impacts including asthma, allergies, lung cancer and heart problems. Children are even more vulnerable to these impacts, yet each day over 100,000 kids in BC are exposed to diesel fumes when they ride the school bus. Diesel pollution also contributes to climate change - which further impacts us in every aspect of our lives.

The good news is we have the technology and the means to lessen the health and climate impacts of school bus transportation. Switching to electric school buses will improve air quality on the bus, in school yards, and in communities where buses travel - and will help us meet our emission reduction goals.

Switching to electric school buses also makes financial sense. Lower maintenance and running costs mean that school districts can save \$17,000 per year per electric bus, offsetting the higher purchase price. The economic benefits are even more apparent if you include the avoided health care costs associated with diesel pollution (estimated to be \$10,700 per bus, according to recent analysis by the Pembina Institute).

Making the switch will take leadership and commitment. The BC government has already committed some funding for electric school buses. I'm urging you, as my elected representative, to show leadership in committing the government to provided the funds needed so that all new school buses purchased across the province are electric, and school districts can start switching over their fleets as soon as possible.

This email has been copied to my school board chair to let them know I support electric school buses.

Sincerely,
Colleen Leary

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