



February 21, 2017

VIA EMAIL
REF: 000000

Dear: Independent School Authorities

Re: School Bus Purchasing

As was done last year, the Ministry of Education (MEd) and the Association of School Transportation Services of BC (ASTSBC) conducted a Request For Standing Offer (RFSO) for school buses. School bus vendors were invited to submit standing offer prices for various types of buses. Effective immediately the RFSO and other supporting documents will be available on the ASTSBC website at <http://www.astsbcc.org/>. To view them, click the "Bus Standing Offer" link on their home page.

Note that this is not a bulk purchase of school buses, rather the ASTSBC has simply secured standing offer prices for school buses that are in effect until April 28, 2017. The standing offer prices are Free on Board (FOB) each purchaser's receiving location and include delivery, packaging, crating and unloading costs anywhere in the Province of British Columbia.

Independent schools that are planning to purchase a new bus are encouraged to contact school bus vendors directly and enter into contracts to purchase from the vendor of their choice, using the "Draw Down Form" mechanism described in the RFSO.

The ASTSBC will invoice independent schools, just as they will invoice band-operated schools and public boards of education, for two percent (2%) of their bus purchase price to defray the cost of administering this initiative. Independent schools that are in arrears of their administration fee payment from purchases under previous RFSOs will be ineligible for future standing offer procurements.

If you have any general questions, please contact me at Michael.Nyikes@gov.bc.ca or at 250.893.6268. If you have specific questions, you can email the ASTSBC's RFSO Committee at rfso@astsbcc.org.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Nyikes".

Michael Nyikes, Director
Standards and Construction Branch

Cc: Robyn Stephenson, President, ASTSBC