

### School Transportation Policy Amendment

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) is pleased to share amendments to the *School Transportation Policy* that have been developed in collaboration with staff from the Regional Centres for Education (RCEs) and the Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) and in consultation with the Department of Public Works.

Language in directive 5.11 of the policy has been updated to indicate that all roads and highways listed and maintained by either the Department of Public Works or the relevant municipal unit are now eligible for bus service, provided all other requirements for Side Road service are met. As always, safety is paramount when decisions are made on bus routing. Based on consultation with experts from the Department of Public Works, removing the requirement for a road to be classified in a certain way was deemed to be appropriate and consistent with legislative and regulatory requirements for school buses.

Updates to the policy are effective as of **October 2023**. Given that bus routing is a complex process that has already been completed for the 2023–24 school year, this policy amendment will be phased in throughout the rest of the school year. We are committed to working with RCEs and CSAP to ensure the changes to the policy are successfully put into practice.

Original signed by

**Hon. Becky Druhan**

Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development