



## Alberta Student Transportation Advisory Council NEWSLETTER No. 1

### Welcome everyone!

My name is Shevon Coram and I am the Chair of the Alberta Student Transportation Advisory Council more commonly known as ASTAC.

ASTAC has been a major stakeholder in the school bus industry for 40 years and has recently undergone some changes to our council that you may want to know about.

The Alberta Student Transportation Advisory Council (ASTAC) is composed of Bus Contractors (Alberta School Bus Contractors' Association) along with Industry members and Supplier representation. Prior to December ASTAC was an organization that included STAA representatives. In December 2022 the STAA Executive made a decision on behalf of all of the STAA members to no longer be a part of ASTAC. For additional information you may go to [astac.ca](http://astac.ca) to see the letter both from the STAA and the response from the ASBCA for additional information is here: [W ASTAC Letter to STAA.docx](#)

The STAA in their latest weekly update noted 2 items that we would like to clarify as being **inaccurate**.

### 1. The STAA said we do not have insurance.

Attendees at any event we are hosting are covered through their employer. For an event such as School Bus Rodeo, we purchase event specific insurance as required. Our venues such as the AMTA, a conference center etc all have liability insurance. The ASBCA has its own insurance for its members in addition to this and the STAA assured us that they have insurance.

## **2. The STAA said our raffles are non-compliant with AGLC.**

There was a lengthy discussion with AGLC on this and as long as a draw is run as a 'game of chance' it is compliant. At CPTC a guessing of the candy in the jar made it compliant. All future draws will be set up this way.

### **Upcoming events for ASTAC:**

#### **1. Alberta Provincial School Bus Rodeo 2023**

**Date: Saturday June 3, 2023**

**Location: Nisku Coast Inn and the AMTA site at the Edmonton International Airport**

#### **2. Town Hall Meeting - an open discussion about how to operate successfully given the funding, the MELT program and the Driver shortages we have today.**

**Date: Thursday September 21, 2023**

**Location: Nisku Coast Inn**

**Times: 6 - 9 pm**

**Who are we inviting?**

1. Premier's Office
2. Ministry of Education
3. Ministry of Transportation
4. Secretary Treasurers and Superintendent
5. Transportation Directors/Managers
6. PSBA (Public School Board Association)
7. Trustee association
8. CASS (College of Alberta School Superintendents)
9. ASBOA (Association of School Business Officials of Alberta)
10. ASBCA (Alberta School Bus Contractors Association)
11. School Bus Contractors
12. Parents and Drivers

### **3. School Bus Safety Week Poster Contest**

**Date: October 15 - 21, 2023**

**Theme:**

**TBA - if you have a great idea for this, we'd love to hear from you!**

**Your ASTAC team is:**

**Chair of ASTAC:** Shevon Coram

**Secretary of ASTAC:** Sue Connell,

**ASBCA Reps:** Mark Critch, Yacine Belhadj, Yvonne Cumbleton, Murray Glass, Scott Hucal, Sue Fowler, Kyrie Guerts, Brian Hauptman

**Industry members:** Lynne Lambert, Kelli Pickett, Craig Makokis

**Supplier Representatives:** Doug DeHoop, Shaun Greenaway, Paul Gabbey, Kris Dumanski.

We thank you for your support and we will continue to work hard for you. If you would like to be a member of ASTAC, please reach out to us and we will bring your name forward at the next ASTAC meeting.

If you are able to be there, we will see you all at the Town Hall meeting and at the Provincial School Bus Rodeo. For more information please do not hesitate to contact us: [astac.alberta@gmail.com](mailto:astac.alberta@gmail.com) or myself direct at [shevon.coram@rdcrs.ca](mailto:shevon.coram@rdcrs.ca)