

### **How can I register my child for the WSB?**

Each participating school has an associated WSB survey. The purpose of this survey is to identify interested families and uncover broadly where these families are living. This data is crucial as it enables us to create a tailored walking route for each school bus. If your child(ren)'s school is participating in the program, we strongly encourage you to complete the relevant survey [here](#).

Once the walking route for a particular school has been finalized, we will share the route with all respondents who expressed interest in the program through the survey. At that point, interested participants will have the opportunity to officially register their child(ren) for the walking school bus.

### **To participate, does my child need to walk with the bus every day, AM and PM?**

We know that participants are going to have commitments before and after school on certain days. When registering your child, you will have the option to select which days of the week they will join the bus. A participant will not be required to walk with the group Monday - Friday, AM and PM.

### **How many children can join a WSB route?**

The capacity of a WSB group is limited by the availability of Walk Leaders. Each WSB must have an adult to child ratio of 1:8, with more Walk Leaders needed depending on the walking distance and the ages of the participants. WSB's will not exceed 20 participants. The more Walk Leaders that a group has, the more student participants can join the group.

Currently, we are recruiting Walk Leaders through each school's WSB survey. For more information on what Walk Leaders are and how to participate, see below.

### **What is a WSB Walk Leader?**

If the group of children walking to school are the 'bus-riders', the Walk Leaders are the bus conductors. They typically walk at the front of the group, setting the pace, ensuring the group's safety and promoting good pedestrian behaviour. In larger groups, the second Walk Leader takes up the back of the bus making sure everyone stays together.

The WSB relies on adult leaders for their commitment, energy, care and good judgment to make a positive impact on the lives of children. In some cases, the Walk Leaders will be paid for their time leading a WSB, and in others this is a volunteer position.

### **Who can be a WSB Walk Leader?**

Anyone who is interested in working with children, active transportation, giving back to their community and environmental sustainability is a great fit for a WSB Walk Leader! Most often, Walk Leaders are volunteers from the local and school community.

We ask that all Walk Leaders commit to a minimum of 4 shifts per week. Typically, each shift is approximately 45 minutes – 1 hour. There are shifts both before and after school.

All Walk Leaders must attend a training session prior to September 2023 (exact date TBD). Walk Leaders will be provided with training manuals that outline their responsibilities and WSB protocol. These resources will go over pedestrian safety, group management strategies, emergency protocols and more.

*Note: All Walk Leaders will need to undergo a Police and Vulnerable Sector Check.*

### How can I become a WSB Walk Leader?

“I am a parent or guardian of a child(ren) at a participating school”

- Indicate your willingness to volunteer and availability when completing your child(ren)’s school’s WSB survey.

*Please note – if you have already done this, nothing more is needed at this time!*

“I am a parent or guardian of a child(ren) at a participating school, **and I have already completed their school’s WSB survey**”

- Please complete this [form](#)

“I am **not** a parent or guardian of a child at a participating school, and I want to volunteer as a WSB Walk Leader”

- Please email us at [walkingschoolbus@scyofbc.org](mailto:walkingschoolbus@scyofbc.org) with the subject: Walking School Bus Volunteer. Include the following information in your application:
  - Full Name:
  - Contact Information (your phone number and email address):
  - Preferred Location(s) and school (if applicable):
    - City of Vancouver, District of North Vancouver and/or City of New Westminster
  - Availability from the following list:
    - Monday AM (8-9)
    - Monday PM (3-4)
    - Tuesday AM (8-9)
    - Tuesday PM (3-4)
    - Wednesday AM (8-9)
    - Wednesday PM (3-4)
    - Thursday AM (8-9)
    - Thursday PM (3-4)
    - Friday AM (8-9)
    - Friday PM (3-4)
  - Relevant Experience and/or resume:
  - Contact information of a reference (preference for professional, but a personal reference will be accepted):
  - Where you learned about this volunteer position: