

Ministry of Education

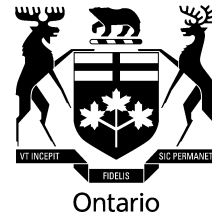
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February 13, 2012

Dear Chair,

I am pleased to tell you that I have received the report of the Transportation Task Force from the Chair, the Honourable Coulter Osborne.

The Task Force was made up of representatives from school boards, transportation consortia, school bus operators, a procurement expert and a ministry representative. Their mandate was to review the competitive processes used to procure student home-to-school transportation, paying special attention to their fairness, transparency, accountability and value for money. This, I know, was no small challenge, and the diverse views of the Task Force's membership are reflected in the report.

For many parents, the school day begins the moment their child steps on board a school bus. Our priority is to ensure our school bus transportation system is safe, efficient and accountable, while giving parents peace of mind. We know that school boards and operators share this goal and we thank the Task Force for their efforts to study such a complex issue with many competing interests and needs.

I want to let you know that I am appreciative of the sector's support of the Task Force and your patience during the last six months. I am currently reviewing the report with ministry staff and I will be communicating further with you very shortly on the direction this report will take us.

Thank you again for supporting the government's commitment to safety, fairness, transparency and accountability in public sector procurement.

Yours truly,

Laurel Broten
Minister