

# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION VISIT TRIBE TO SHARE INFORMATION WITH BUS OPERATORS

A representative from the Department of Transportation and the Blood Tribe Community Development were invited to the Kainai Multipurpose facility on Friday, October 26, 2014, to facilitate an information session with the owners and operators of the Blood Bus Coop. Also invited to the session were drivers from the Kainai Board of Education.

Rick Smith from the Department of Transportation and Charlie Fox, Community Development coordinator, shared current information with those in attendance as the busy school schedule kept them on a tight schedule. During the presentation, many drivers had to leave to pick students up from school and to bring them home safely.

The Bus Co-op's mandate is to provide for safe, efficient and reliable school bus transportation for the eligible children of the Blood reserve. With this in mind we are being quite proactive in keeping our buses in line with meeting the expectations of the Department of Transportation. The department went over a number of issues with drivers and owners in regards to what is expected when a bus is inspected by Department of Transportation. When a school bus is pulled over which is done randomly, there are certain types of documents that should be kept on the bus. Also, the bus is physically inspected for safety issues. If these items are not taken care of within a certain time period the owner is fined for neglecting to follow up on the repairs or items of concern.

The bus co-op would like to ensure that our buses are running everyday and on time. Policies are being updated to reflect our mandate. We would like the children of the Blood reserve to be transported to and from school in busses that are in good condition and drivers that are qualified and diligent in making sure that the buses are providing safe conditions.



*The owners of the busses participate in annual inspections from the Department of Transportation. This is to ensure the safety of our children.*