SUMMARY REPORT
School Travel Survey
In the Fall of 2013, families from the North Vancouver School District elementary schools were asked to fill out an online school travel survey. The survey was a joint initiative between the School District, the City of North Vancouver and the District of North Vancouver.

WHAT WE HEARD

For every 7 families that are walking to school... 6 other families are driving 1 other family is bicycling

WHO WE HEARD FROM

- 1,586 families from 26 elementary schools across the North Shore responded
- Families with children enrolled in Kindergarten through Grade 7 were represented equally
- Of the families that responded:
  55% have one child in elementary school
  35% have two children in elementary school
  10% have three or more children in elementary school
- 25% of respondents are enrolled in French Immersion programs and 5% are enrolled in International Baccalaureate (IB) programs

TOP FIVE REASONS WHY PARENTS DRIVE THEIR CHILDREN TO SCHOOL

1. "It’s on my way to somewhere else."
2. "It’s more convenient."
3. "It’s too far to walk/cycle."
4. "Because it’s raining."
5. "There’s too much traffic and it seems unsafe to walk/cycle."
Most parents consider traffic conditions around schools to be problematic:

- 75% of respondents said that there is excessive congestion at pick up and drop off times
- 60% said that poor driver behaviour is an issue
  
(multiple answers are included in percentages)

This is not surprising considering that so many parents drive their children to school and contribute to traffic congestion.

The families who attend schools with parent-led traffic safety information campaigns, and that are involved in Travel Smart® programs reported higher satisfaction about conditions for pedestrians and cyclists accessing the school.

**WHY DOES IT MATTER?**

Thank you to everyone who responded to our School Safety Survey last fall. Survey results are used by the City and District of North Vancouver, the North Vancouver School District and by local schools to help understand what influences how families choose to get their children to school, how to change behaviour and improve infrastructure to reduce traffic congestion at schools to create safer routes to school for children and youth!