

# OSBA NEWS

## First OSBA Webinar a Huge Hit!

Over 50 people registered for OSBA's webinar last week with Dave Carroll. Several important topics were covered including changes to the MTO Driver Certification Program (DCP), yellow vs white buses for special needs (accessible) transportation, overcrowding and insecure cargo/freight inside the school bus, proposed changes to criminal background checks.

### Here's what attendees are saying....

- "Very informative. We found the webinar easy to listen to. Overall clear and concise messaging."
- "Excellent tool. I found it simple to use, knowledgeable, and easy to follow. Very interesting and I don't have to leave the office."
- "Well done, I look forward to participating in many more in the future."
- "A great update of current issues!"

**Stay tuned for the date of the next webinar!** Submit your topic ideas and suggestions today to: [info@osba.on.ca](mailto:info@osba.on.ca) Webinar attendance includes post-event copy of the PowerPoint presentation.

## OSBA and Industry Successes... Stock Transportation

School bus drivers are trained to do a lot more than simply drive a school bus. That extensive training paid major dividends when driver Sarah Brake of Stock Transportation saved the life of a choking child.

On Tues. May 14, a 9-year-old girl approached Sarah on the bus and tugged on her sleeve. After a few quick questions, Sarah realized the girl was choking. The Stock driver removed the student from the bus and administered the Heimlich manoeuvre three times, successfully dislodging the food and allowing the girl to breathe. Sarah proceeded to help the girl relax, and worked to calm the other worried students on the bus.

"Sarah is a new driver for us who had completed her First Aid Course three weeks earlier," said Site Supervisor Jill Mather of Stock's facility in Orangeville, Ontario. Sarah was recognized at a local safety meeting in front of her peers and the Upper Grand District School Board. The girl's mother shared an emotional moment with Sarah as she presented flowers to her daughter's school bus driver.

"Sarah is a shining example of how bus driver training can save lives," Mather said. "It's all about knowing what to do, and then quickly doing it while staying calm and in control. Sarah could not have handled that stressful situation any better."

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## OSBA Now Represents Over 11,000 School Buses

OSBA continues to grow and be the biggest voice of small, medium and large school bus companies in Ontario advocating for the safety and viability of the entire school bus industry. OSBA is pleased to have the expertise of First Student back in the fold and look forward to their professional input in helping to shape an economically healthy and sustainable industry, safely and reliably serving the shifting needs of student transportation in Ontario.

### Toronto City Hall (Queen Street) Bus Parking Spaces Reduced

Redevelopment of Nathan Phillips Square in front of Toronto's City Hall is impacting the designated (free) one-hour bus parking spaces on Queen Street. The previous four designated bus parking spaces have been reduced to just two spaces (at the east end) and these are signed for bus loading and unloading only, and not for parking. Our friends at OMCA have questioned the City as to why they have preserved parking space for four food trucks, spaces that could and should have been allocated to buses. OMCA advises us that they will continue to press the City to ease the impact of losing the Queen Street spaces by designating six new (free) on-street bus parking spaces on Armoury and Chestnut Streets. These spaces would be available for buses to park for a maximum of 2 hours, and groups could easily walk between there and Nathan Phillip's Square. City staff are working on a by-law that has to go to City Council before the six spaces can be established.

#### **ATTENTION ALL OPERATORS, SCHOOL BOARDS AND SUPPLIER MEMBERS!**

#### **OSBA and Industry Successes!**

We want to hear your good news stories! Tell us about a successful venture or special occurrence in your company, with your drivers, amongst the kids that you transport, within your schools, or a new product/service within your organization. OSBA wants to highlight and share your successes. It's not about giving away company secrets or blowing a horn too boldly. It's about being proud of the professionalism within the school bus industry as a whole. We have dedicated the front page of the OSBA newsletter to YOU! Please send your articles to: [info@osba.on.ca](mailto:info@osba.on.ca) (Please note OSBA reserves all article publishing rights).

#### **Best Wishes for School Start-Up!**

Hoping your summer has been safe and enjoyable and you're ready for a new school year.

On behalf of all OSBA Directors, best wishes for a smooth and trouble-free school start up!

If there is anything that OSBA can do to assist you, please do not hesitate to contact us:

[info@osba.on.ca](mailto:info@osba.on.ca)  
416.695.9965

[www.osba.on.ca](http://www.osba.on.ca)



# Calendar of Events

## August 2013

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### OSBA Directors 2013

President, Perry Ferguson	
Vice-President, Les Cross	519-455-4579
Treasurer, Mark Begg	705-737-9847
Director, Dave DeNure	613-346-2511
Director, Kirk Flach	519-676-5837
Director, Raymond Goulden	289-840-7110
Director, Chris Harwood	807-854-0479
Director, Brian Jobson	705-721-2626
Director, Nick McRae	905-934-1124
Director, Jim Switzer	613-488-2337
	289-288-1366

## Upcoming

### October 20-25, 2013

Professional Instructor in Driver Education Program - Burlington, ON

### October 21-25, 2013

School Bus Safety Week

This publication is a member service of the  
**Ontario School Bus Association**

1 Eva Road, Suite 304  
Toronto, ON, M9C 4Z5

**1-888-675-OSBA (6722)**

Phone 416-695-9965

Fax 416-695-9977

Email [info@osba.on.ca](mailto:info@osba.on.ca)

Michele O'Bright, Association Director  
Dave Carroll, Safety & Legislation Consultant  
Richard Donaldson, Government Relations Consultant

## SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK

October 21 - 25, 2013

Planning an event for School Bus Safety Week? We want to hear from you! Let us know what you're doing to promote school bus safety during this week and you could be featured in an issue of OSBA News!

Email: [info@osba.on.ca](mailto:info@osba.on.ca)

### Submissions welcome.

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