

**This is an important notice.
Please have it translated.**

One-Day Field Trips Informed Consent

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The written, informed consent of parents/guardians is required for participation of students in all One-Day field trips in North Vancouver School District No. 44. The purpose of the Informed Consent document is to provide students and parents/guardians with information that is related specifically to the field trip. The parent/guardian consenting signatures on this document indicate acknowledgement and acceptance of the information contained herein inclusive of risks and potential consequences. **NOTE: This school field trip is optional. Alternate arrangements will be made for students who do not participate.**

The legal requirement of implementing the Informed Consent document is the direct result of a number of tragic outcomes that have occurred on school field trips in other school district jurisdictions. The intent here is to prevent the occurrence of tragedy, to attempt to ensure safety, to inform students and parents/guardians of the field trip itinerary and purpose(s), and to brief students and parents/guardians on the inherent risks of travel.

Within this package, you will find information relating to:

- Description of how the field trip supplements the educational program
- Notice that the field trip is optional, and that arrangements will be made for students who are not participating
- Notification of student/parent Pre-Trip meeting (if applicable)
- Detailed itinerary consisting of date, departure and return times
- Transportation arrangements
- Description of supervisors: teachers, employees of the Board and other adult volunteers, along with emergency contact numbers
- Description of direct and indirect supervision
- Description of all activities and the inherent risks and potential consequences
- Assessment of student skills and abilities as pertaining to the field trip activity (if applicable)
- Behavioural expectations of students plus safety rules and regulations
- Contingency Plan: cell phone, first-aid provision(s), injury/incident reporting
- Description of budget consisting of revenue (cost to student) and expenditures (cost of trip) (*optional trips only*)
- Notice regarding cancellation and deposits
- Parent/guardian responsibility to arrange student accident or liability insurance
- Parent/guardian responsibility to determine whether the student may participate in the field trip
- *Student Awareness of Risk and Responsibility Form* completed by student (if applicable)

PURPOSE(S):

The purpose of all field trips is to provide experiences that are virtually impossible to achieve in a school setting. Students registered in Physical and Health Education 8-10 at Argyle participate in several sports activities and outdoor adventure activities. Outdoor activities have long been recognized as offering unique opportunities to build skills, confidence and self-reliance while working as a group in a physically demanding environment. These experiences will promote group interaction, cooperation and life skills in an outdoor setting.

By virtue of being out of the school setting, students on a field trip learn to be ambassadors for their school, their community and even their country. They learn the realities of travel, the responsibilities and independence of self-

governance, the communication skills and leadership skills necessary for teamwork, and the social skills necessary for a variety of circumstances.

PRE-TRIP MEETING (IF APPLICABLE):

As per the District Field Trip Policy, if the nature of the field trip exposes students to a higher than normally acceptable level of risk then a Pre-Trip meeting will be arranged for parents/guardians and students. The purpose of the Pre-Trip meeting is to provide an opportunity for the dissemination of information and discussion related to the risks, consequences and precautions taken. All Out-of-Province field trips require a Pre-Trip meeting to be planned.

ITINERARY:

Field trips may include, but are not limited to, Murdo Frazer Pitch and Putt, Seymour Creek Golf Centre, North Shore Bowl, racquetball, The Edge Climbing Centre, curling, tubing at Mt. Seymour, snowshoeing at Grouse Mountain, yoga, lasertag, kayaking, squash, hiking, paintball and beach volleyball at Ambleside.

TRANSPORTATION:

Field trip sponsors will arrange for transportation that best meets the needs of the trip in question. Transportation of students by private vehicles shall be in accordance with Board Policy 607: Transportation of Students and School District transportation procedures. All field trip transportation is subject to the regulation and law of the relevant municipal, provincial, federal or international jurisdiction. Students must use the transportation method arranged by the trip sponsors to ensure safety, timely arrival, and reasonable accident liability. Following are the specific details for the particular trip your child is attending:

Students will generally be required to arrange their own transportation to and from the activity meeting points designated in the itinerary.

SPONSORS(S) AND CHAPERONE(S):

<u>Name</u>	<u>M/F</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Phone Number(s)</u>	<u>e-mail address</u>
Cam Molinski	M	Teacher	(604) 903-3300	cammolinski@sd44.ca
Wayne Shaw	M	Teacher	(604) 903-3300	wshaw@sd44.ca
Darren Rath	M	Teacher	(604) 903-3300	drath@sd44.ca
Carla Bumsted	F	Teacher	(604) 903-3300	cbumsted@sd44.ca
Sean Soper	M	Teacher	(604) 903-3300	ssoper@sd44.ca
Sean Winter	M	Teacher	(604) 903-3300	swinter@sd44.ca
Milan Boljuncic	M	Teacher	(604) 903-3300	mboljuncic@sd44.ca
Susan Kennedy	F	Teacher	(604) 903-3300	skennedy@sd44.ca
Bryan Lockless	M	Teacher	(604) 903-3300	blockless@sd44.ca

SUPERVISION:

The level of supervision is divided into direct and indirect. Direct supervision is the time students spend with the trip sponsor(s) and/or chaperone(s) participating in the trip's planned activities. Indirect supervision is the time students may spend as "free time" in between scheduled group activities. Under indirect supervision, the students may not necessarily be in the company of a sponsor or chaperone. It is expected that students, while under indirect supervision, will act with common sense in accordance with school and field trip behaviour expectations, stay within the articulated geographical boundaries, and act with the best interests of all concerned parties utmost in their minds and actions. Sponsors and chaperones will determine "free time", check-in times and methods, and clearly articulate them to students. Students, when under indirect supervision, will be informed of how to reach a sponsor or chaperone in the case of an emergency .

RISKS AND CONSEQUENCES:

There is a degree of risk in all daily activities. The risk is increased to varying degrees when students are away from the safety and supervision of the school setting. It is impossible to itemize every possible element of risk associated with a

field trip. Generally speaking, this field trip may include, but not be limited, to the following inherent risks and all risks associated with:

- All risks associated with motor vehicle travel to and from activities
- All risks associated with the activities listed in the itinerary

Sponsors, chaperones, and students will do all they can to ensure a safe and controlled experience to reduce inherent risk. The consequences of risk are, again, myriad and dependent on the situation. Students and parents/guardians need to be aware that injury can occur from risk, and that injury can range from minor to fatal. Again, sponsors, chaperones, and students will do all they can to ensure a safe and controlled experience. By virtue of signing this *Informed Consent* form, you are acknowledging your understanding and acceptance of the inherent risks and possible consequences associated with this field trip.

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

Before students may participate in any planned experience while on a field trip, they must assure the field trip sponsor(s) and chaperone(s) that they have the necessary and required skills, training and common sense to participate in the experience. Again, there is a range of skill level dependent on the activity. For example, during free time students may have access to an activity that may in itself have certain risks. For example, students who do not possess swimming skills should not attempt *any* activity in or around water that may result in or require swimming. Common sense must prevail.

If a risk activity, such as skiing, is the purpose of the field trip, the sponsor(s) and chaperone(s) must assess and be assured that students have the necessary and required skills, training, and common sense to realistically participate in the activity at varying degrees of competence. Students are solely responsible for being forthright and honest in declaring their level of skills in the “self-assessment” section of the *Student Awareness of Risk and Responsibility Form*, entitled “My level of skills and abilities”.

In order to comply with these expectations, for trips that involve international travel and/or a relatively high level of risk, students must complete the *Student Awareness of Risk and Responsibility Form*.

BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS, SAFETY RULES AND REGULATIONS:

While on any field trip, it is important that students remember that they are on a school outing and behavioral expectations are consistent with all school rules. Students come under the jurisdiction of both the School District Code of Conduct and the Code of Conduct of their school for the full duration of the field trip. It is very important for students to remember that when they are on a field trip, they are representatives of their school and the North Vancouver School District and are expected to behave accordingly.

1. The safety of the group must be of utmost priority. Students must always be concerned about the welfare of all members of the field trip.
2. Students who commit a criminal offence or who are found with or under the influence of illegal drugs may be subject to the demands of the local law enforcement agency involved. This may result in serious consequences that may include, but not be limited to, being sent home with a chaperone at the parent/guardian(s) expense.
3. The purchase or consumption of alcoholic beverages is not allowed at any time, regardless of the age of the student, or the legal drinking age of the location that is being visited. Failure to comply will result in serious consequences that may include, but not be limited to, being sent home with a chaperone at the parent/guardian(s) expense.
4. Smoking is not permitted on field trips.
5. Students must abide by all restrictions set by supervisor(s)/chaperone(s) with respect to “off-limits” areas and activities.
6. Approved transportation or chartered vehicles must be used at all times.

7. Students whose behaviour is deemed inappropriate and/or in contravention of these rules will be subject to disciplinary action on the trip as determined by the chaperones, and upon return, as determined by the school administration.

CONTINGENCY PLANNING:

A “basic needs” first aid kit will travel with the group. Student Emergency Procedure Plans/medical supplies will be brought for students with life-threatening medical conditions (e.g., anaphylaxis). Students with specialized medication(s) or conditions must be able to responsibly look after their “regular, daily” medical needs without specialized assistance. Where regular urban emergency medical assistance is available, it will be used when necessary. Where regular urban emergency medical assistance is not available, special provisions for emergencies will be addressed by available staff.

At least one supervising adult will have access to a cell phone.

In the event of student injury, parents/guardians will be notified. For all incidents involving injury, supervising school personnel will record details of the incident and, as soon as practicable, complete an *Incident Report* submission.

BUDGET:

See itinerary with budget.

POLICY REGARDING CANCELLATION OF TRIP/REFUNDS:

NOTE: If a field trip budget requires the payment of a deposit and/or monies either in advance of the field trip or during the field trip and the field trip is cancelled either in part or in whole, or the itinerary altered, neither the school nor the Board shall be liable for any refund either in part, or in whole.

TRAVEL/MEDICAL/ACCIDENT/LIABILITY INSURANCE:

The field trip your child is participating in may arrange group insurance policies for travel cancellation, accident, and/or liability insurance. If group coverage is not applied, then it is up to parents/guardians to ensure that their child has the necessary medical, accident, cancellation and/or liability insurance.

Individual student accident insurance can be obtained from www.iapkidsplus.com.

Sincerely,

PHE Dept. Staff

Return this Informed Consent Approval to School

ONE-DAY FIELD TRIP

INFORMED CONSENT APPROVAL

For: Physical and Health Education 8-10

Class or Division: All sections

PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION

A student must have parent/guardian written and signed permission in order to participate in any field trip. Without this signed consent, students will not participate in this field trip.

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT

I, _____, have read the full Informed Consent document that
Print Parent/Guardian's Name
pertains to my son/daughter _____'s field trips to various
Print Child's Name
activities/locations. I am aware of the behavioural expectations of my child while attending this field trip, and that there will be consequences for non-compliance, which may include, but not be limited to, being sent home with a chaperone escort at my/our expense. I am aware of the inherent risks and potential consequences that may occur on this field trip. My signature here indicates that my child has my informed consent to attend the field trip.

Signed _____

Dated: _____