



## Springwood Elementary School PAC

December 11, 2020

City of Parksville  
100 Jensen Avenue East  
PO Box 1390  
Parksville BC V9P 2H3

Dear City of Parksville,

### **Re: Safe Routes to School – Despard Avenue, Moilliet Street, Alberni Highway**

Springwood Elementary School Parent Advisory Council (SES PAC) is a collective voice of parents and guardians who are dedicated to our children's educational success, health, and well-being. We are calling on the City of Parksville to take accountability and provide immediate increased safety measures at the intersection of Moilliet Street and Despard Avenue. As part of a Safe Route to School focus, construction areas around Alberni Highway, Despard Avenue and Moilliet Street require additional safety strategies implemented.

The above intersection, adjacent to school property, is used by children and families twice per day plus more when there are outings and field trips. The increase in traffic, construction and chaos on this corner has rapidly increased to a level which surpasses our comfort level of *let's wait and see if it gets better*. Parents and guardians have daily concerns that their children do not have a Safe Route to School when coming to Despard Avenue from the Alberni Highway side of school. After the recent accident, where a Springwood student was hit and hospitalized by a vehicle, our community needed to see immediate action and change implemented. SES PAC applauds the School District 69 (SD69) Leadership team for their prompt safety measures of hiring crossing guards for the very next day. SD69 continues to lead by providing trained patrols at the intersection, off school property. SES PAC recognizes this is an opportunity and obligation for the City of Parksville to utilize their resources and take the lead of making road safety an urgent priority on their city streets, specifically ones adjacent to schools.

SES PAC, while being the collective voice of the parents, will also continue to encourage parents, guardians, and community members to advocate directly with the City of Parksville if they have questions and concerns about projects that occur on city property.

SES PAC has successfully worked with the City of Parksville Engineering Department in previous years. As our community grows, we are confident that we can continue to work together to ensure our kids have a Safe Route to School. Please reach out to our PAC Executive team if you would like to discuss further details.

Thank you,

Springwood Elementary School Parent Advisory Council Executives  
% Springwood Elementary School  
450 Despard Avenue  
Parksville BC V9P 1J9  
[springwoodpac@gmail.com](mailto:springwoodpac@gmail.com)