From: Sanderson, Melanie PSSG:EX
To: Whiteside, Jennifer EDUC:EX

Cc: Lindsay-Baugh, Anna EDUC:EX; Pelech, Keefer EDUC:EX

Subject: FW: KM - Fraser Health data set released on school transmission - May 11 (003)

**Date:** May 11, 2021 1:31:08 PM

Attachments: KM - Fraser Health data set released on school transmission - May 11 (003).docx

KMs for now attached.

Melanie Sanderson A/SMA, Education 250-880-9508

From: Leslie, Sean GCPE:EX <Sean.Leslie@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** May 11, 2021 1:23 PM

**To:** Lindsay-Baugh, Anna EDUC:EX <Anna.LindsayBaugh@gov.bc.ca>; Pelech, Keefer EDUC:EX <Keefer.Pelech@gov.bc.ca>; Sanderson, Melanie EDUC:EX <Melanie.Sanderson@gov.bc.ca>; Craik, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Craik@gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** Burton, Meribeth GCPE:EX <Meribeth.Burton@gov.bc.ca>; Silver, Matt GCPE:EX <Matt.Silver@gov.bc.ca>

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Updated as requested however I don't have anything here on Worksafe claims, checking with Jeremy now. Also don't have an answer yet as to when the latest FHA follow-up data will be released.

And, still waiting on confirmation that Zussman is actually setting this up!

## **Key Messages:**

## Fraser Health: COVID-19 School Cluster & Transmission Analysis MAY 11, 2021

- Keeping schools open and safe is a priority for the social and emotional wellbeing of children.
- We understand that Fraser Health presented school case data to superintendents in their region, based on information Dr. Henry used for her April 15<sup>th</sup> modelling presentation. And it confirms what we have heard before, in-school transmission remains low.
- In the Fraser Health data from this nine-week period, it shows that less than 1% of the total school population within Fraser Health tested positive.
- And of those cases, 87% were acquired outside of the school setting.
- The results of Fraser Health's analysis show that only a fraction of the cases associated with students and staff were the result of in-school transmission.
- We continue to see low in-school transmission rates in B.C. and we continue to take targeted approaches in hot spots with Rapid Response Teams and vaccine priority for K-12 staff.
- I understand that Fraser Health will conduct additional analysis of schoolassociated COVID-19 cases from March 7 going forward to review the impact variants and immunization efforts. I look forward to seeing those results when they are available.
- It's important to note that students and school staff are continuing to attend schools across the Fraser Health Region in numbers that are comparable to previous years.

- Safety remains our top priority and we are in constant contact with the PHO, Health Authorities and school districts to ensure we are doing everything to reduce the risk of transmission in our school communities.
- Fraser Health Authority has not asked the Ministry for any operational changes in the area.

(If asked about Surrey Teachers' Association Status of Women Committee letter re: disproportionate impacts on women, immigrants, low income families)

- I am aware of the concerns raised by the Surrey Teachers' Association and I want to thank teachers for their advocacy on behalf of students and their families.
- We know the pandemic is impacting everyone differently and exacerbating existing inequities.
- We are working closely with public health officials and would of course close schools if directed to do so.
- It's important to remember that many schools also provide meal programs, supports for students with disabilities, and learning supports – closing them is a big decision that would have impacts on all students and families, and it is not a decision we would make lightly.