



Ferry Advisory Committee Action Minutes

Gambier-Keats Ferry Advisory Committee

Date: July 2, 2009

Time: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Location: Cedars Inn
895 Gibsons Way , Gibsons BC

Attendees:	
Committee	BC Ferries
Joyce Clegg, Chair	Captain Gordon Nettleton, Marine Superintendent
Donna Pearson	Rob Clarke, Chief Financial Officer
Nels Nyberg	Mark Stefanson, Vice President, Public Affairs
Sharon Romanovich	Grant Bierlmeier, Director, Pricing & Revenue Performance
Nancy Donaldson	Jason Bowman, Regional Director, Terminal Operations
Absent	
Brenda Hardisty	
Guest: Bruce Kerr, Kona Winds Yacht Charters Ltd.	
Public: 2 members	
Kim Tournat - Representative from Nicholas Simons Office	
Media: Shannon Bond, Coast Reporter	

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 2:12 p.m.
2. **Introductions:** Introductions were made by each meeting participant.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda was approved with the addition of Confirmation of Chair.
4. **Confirmation of Chair:** Joyce Clegg was confirmed as Chair.
5. **Presentations:**
 - **Public** – There were no public presentations.
 - **Operations Report** - Captain Gordon Nettleton, Marine Superintendent, presented the Marine Operations report with information on safety and security, traffic, on time performance and master planning.
 - **Tariff Rationalization** – Grant Bierlmeier led a discussion around tariff rationalization for April 1, 2010.

Guiding Principles:
Revenue Neutrality
Simplicity
Reasonability

Grant stated that he wanted to get the FAC's thoughts on moving the fuel surcharges/rebates from a flat amount to a percentage surcharge/rebate.

Grant also proposed a \$2.00 charge for bicycles across the fleet. However, if a customer were to use their Experience Card, the customer would get a discount of \$2.00 on that charge at the \$75 load level therefore making the bicycle free of charge.

BC Ferries (BCF) is looking at increasing the buy-in level for the Experience Card when the fares go up April 1st of each year. The buy-in level would then be relevant against the increase in fares.

BC Ferries is also looking at discontinuing the passenger only buy-in level as less than 2% of users actually purchase the \$40 buy-in level. In April 2010, BCF would look at one buy-in level of \$85 (Price TBD) and the price would subsequently increase each year.

ACTION: Gambier Keats FAC to review the tariff rationalization proposals and get back to BC Ferries at the fall meeting with feedback on the aforementioned items.

Grant hopes that implementing the Experience Card on Route 13 is not too far off.

Bruce Kerr of Kona Wind Charters asked if there was any chance that paper tickets can be streamlined as there are many with different prices. Rob Clarke, Chief Financial Officer, replied that BC Ferries is wide open to suggestions. Bruce suggested that passengers trade up their tickets at the terminal office rather than on the vessel. Rob responded that BCF can do that at the terminal. Joyce Clegg added that the terminal office can also give them a credit on their Experience Card.

ACTION: BC Ferries (Grant Bierlmeier) to look into the feasibility of this.

6. FAC Items

- The FAC wanted BC Ferries' thoughts on the SCRCD potentially charging a landing fee of \$100 for use of the Eastbourne and Keats Landing Docks. Rob Clarke responded that this charge will be passed on to the customers, but Rob will wait to deal with it at the April 1, 2010 increase. Rob added that if the SCRCD is charging both Kona Winds and BCF, he will need to know quickly and will deal with it. Rob's understanding is that BCF will be charged \$100 per month for the use of these docks.
- The FAC asked if there is no workable solution to the float closure issue, would there be an opportunity to extend the Stormaway schedule? Rob Clarke responded that we are working towards a solution but the issue with the Stormaway schedule is we get paid by the government for a certain number of round trips. If there are more round trips, then the government needs to agree to that and pay for it. BCF would also need to speak with Bruce Kerr regarding his labour issues and what that means. Rob concluded by saying that it comes down to working with the regional district.
- The Langdale Access Group presented Rob Clarke with a petition of 900 signatures urging BCF and SCRCD to come up with a solution.
- **ACTION: Bruce Kerr to provide BC Ferries (Mark Stefanson) a breakdown of numbers of how many people park in the Horseshoe Bay parking lot when weekend on Gambier - Keats.**

- **ACTION: Sarah Cotton to send Steve Anderson's Route 3 schedule presentation to Gambier-Keats FAC. COMPLETED.**

- 7. Next Meeting:** The next regular meeting of the committee will be held in October/November 2009.
- 8. Meeting adjourned:** 3:40 p.m.

Approved:	
Joyce Clegg, Chair	Date: August 27, 2009
Captain Gordon Nettleton	Date: August 20, 2009