
**DENMAN/HORNBY/COMOX VALLEY
FERRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

April 16, 2002

1:30 p.m. – 4:35 p.m.

New Horizon's Hall, Hornby Island

Attendees:

Committee

Lu Ackerson

Hornby Is. Residents' & Ratepayers Assoc.

Louise Bell

Trustee, Denman Island Trust

Tom Bingham – Alternate

Denman Seniors

Mike Comeau

Denman Business/Economic

Darlene Gage

Community Economic Enhancement Comm.,

Hornby

Leslie Gillett

Denman Schools, Family & Youth

Giff LaRose

Hornby Fire Dept.

April Lewis

Hornby Schools, Family & Youth

Roxanna Mandryk

Area Director RDCS

Michael Parrish – Alternate

Hornby Seniors

Melissa Petlock

Denman Residents Association

Tony Law

Trustee, Hornby Island Trust

Guests:

Robin Storkey

Ministry of Transportation

BC Ferries

Chair, Captain Tony Monaghan

Marine Superintendent

Senior Captain Pete Kimmerly

Hornby Island

Senior Captain Wayne Maxted

Denman Island

Ann Carpenter

Communications Coordinator

Melanie Christensen

Secretary, Marine Superintendent

Judy Cryer

Acting Terminal Manager

1. Call to Order – 1:35 p.m.
2. Captain Monaghan welcomed everyone to the spring meeting of the Denman/Hornby Ferry Advisory Committee meeting. Self-introductions were made by all present. The agenda was revised to accommodate last minute topics.
3. Public Presentations: None

4. Previous Minutes Review of November 30, 2001

Action items:

5.1 Senior Captains Wayne Maxted and Pete Kimmerly presented overload statistics for the 5 month period of November 01, 2001 to March 02, 2002.

Denman Island overloads = 31 times representing 1.2 % of scheduled sailings

Buckley Bay overloads = 43 times representing 1.6% of scheduled sailings

Gravelly Bay = 9 times

Shingle Spit = 10 times

Weather permitting, a contractor will paint yellow striped road markings on the intersection near Boyle Road at Gravelly Bay.

Captain Monaghan has submitted the current winter schedule as the year round schedule, and a change to the BC Ferries schedule brochure to indicate it is the 9:40 a.m. from Hornby that is very busy, not the 8:40 a.m.

5.3 The Ferry Advisory Committee Terms of Reference has been reworded as follows: 'The Committee meets at least two times a year, and may meet more often if required. Meetings of subcommittees or of the full membership acting as a committee-of-the-whole will occur as needed. These meetings may include one or more staff from BC Ferries, depending on the issue being considered.'

5. New Business

5.a) Coastal Council – Louise Bell and Roxanna Mandryk explained that a representative from each ferry advisory committee, serving a two year term, form the Coastal Council. Members deal with global BC Ferries issues as opposed to route issues. The next meeting is expected to take place at the end of June. Melissa Petlock will represent Denman Island, with the representative for Hornby Island to be determined.

5.b) Selection of Committee Chairperson – Roxanna Mandryk will be the ferry advisory committee Chairperson for one year. The chair serves as a point of contact to Captain Monaghan and all FAC members as well as chairing the meetings. The chairperson will chair and facilitate the meeting.

5.c) Lane 1 at Buckley Bay: Judy Cryer reviewed the questionnaires returned from residents of Denman and Hornby Islands. The committee recommended continuing with Lane 1 for Hornby traffic at Buckley Bay except when the outside lot is full and traffic backs up on the highway. New flip-up signs with locks on them will be installed on the highway. When needed, BC Ferry staff will open the signs which direct traffic to:

- slow down, traffic congestion ahead
- all ferry traffic to enter from the south

Action: Ann Carpenter will summarize the questionnaire results and insert the summary into the Grapevine.

Judy Cryer (with review by Ann Carpenter and content approval by Roxanna Mandryk) will submit BC Ferries “frequently asked questions” to the Grapevine on a regular basis, providing information on various ferry topics and procedures.

Buckley Bay Terminal staff will inform summer traffic when the Hornby Island Ferry is shuttling.

For the Fall Meeting, the FAC will create a handout to be distributed at Buckley Bay, informing customers that traffic can safely and easily travel across Denman Island to catch the Hornby Island Ferry.

Captains’ Kimmerly and Maxted will each record ‘doubling’ statistics for the months of July and August 2002.

5.d) Melissa Petlock expressed concern over the cross-island traffic from the 8:00 a.m. Hornby ferry, and the safety of children waiting on the side of the road for their school bus.
Action: Leslie Gillet, Melissa Petlock and Tony Law will insert an article into the First Edition to educate and caution commuters to slow down and be aware of school children.

5.e) Departure time as published in BC Ferries brochures: Tony Monaghan explained that the gate to the ramp closes at the published departure time, and the ferry sails 2 – 3 minutes later. This procedure will be at the Captains’ discretion. Committee members were in concurrence with this procedure.
Action: Captain Monaghan’s office will mail a copy of these minutes to Mr. Wes Piercy for acknowledgement and explanation of his concern voiced at November’s meeting.

5.f) Length of Ferry Advisory Committee member terms: Agreed that this committee will have 1, 2 and 3 year terms. Newer members will consider longer terms and all committee members will communicate their preference to Roxanna Mandryk.
Action: Roxanna Mandryk will communicate the length of terms to Captain Monaghan.

5.g) Ferry Advisory Committee Members alternates: For continuity at meetings, members may have a designated alternate.
Action: Roxanna Mandryk will write each of the sponsoring organizations to advise that their representatives are responsible for arranging for their own alternate, if he/she is unable to attend a meeting.

5.h) Sign at BC Ferries waiting room at Buckley Bay: Louise Bell has obtained 3 quotes for replacing the current sign. The new sign will bear the same message as the existing one.

5.i) Direction of Coastal Council: Roxanna Mandryk reported that BC Ferries has presented options to the Coastal Council members regarding their role and direction. Members are conferring with their advisory groups.
Action: Coastal Council updates will be a regular agenda item at FAC meetings.

5.j) Save our Ferries Coalition – Roxanna Mandryk explained the group’s initiative.

5.k) Hornby Island gas bar: Without the supply of gas on Hornby Island, individuals are transporting more than 1 gas can on the ferries. This presents a safety hazard for all individuals onboard.

Action: April Lewis will inform Captain Monaghan when the pumps will be operational.

5.l) Fares: Tony Monaghan explained that the Wright Report was an independent report about BCFC, commissioned by the provincial government.

Unrelated to the Wright Report is a tariff proposal, which must be approved by the provincial cabinet. The current funding formula, as previously discussed at Coastal Council Meetings, is in place to provide equity to tariffs. As part of this agreement, fares would increase by the Consumer Price Index equal to the 3.2% proposed increase. Secondly, BCFC will be consulting with ferry user groups to review current discounts. The third part of the tariff issue will be discussion on different fare categories.

5.m) Restructuring at Ministry of Transportation (MOT): Robin Storkey advised that as restructuring continues, it is still unclear what services the Courtenay office will provide. Any highway issues can be channeled through the Islands Trust representatives, who will direct the concerns to the local MOT office. Robin Storkey will remain as a MOT resource for the FAC Committee.

5.n) Core Review: BC Ferries will present an analysis of our corporation to the British Columbia Provincial Government’s Core Review Task Force in May 2002. At this time, BCFC operations remain status quo.

5.o) Islands Trust report: Tony Law explained that the Islands Trust committee met with Judith Reid, Minister of Transportation, to emphasize the importance of public consultation with BC Ferries.

5.p) Smoking on Hornby and Denman Island ferries: The ferry advisory committee members agreed they would prefer Hornby and Denman Island vessels to be designated non-smoking for passengers.

Action: Roxanna Mandryk will submit a letter on behalf of the FAC to Captain Monaghan. *(Since the meeting, Roxanna has sent a letter to Captain Peter Hughes, Assistant Vice President, IIS(N), who has responded that he is unable to designate the vessels non-smoking, but that ferry crews will be vigilant in enforcing the regulations concerning the carrying of gasoline on the ferry. He also said that the crews will not be responsible for policing the youth that are smoking.*

6.0 Next Meeting: October 2002