

CAMPBELL RIVER/QUADRA/CORTES STAKEHOLDERS LIAISON COMMITTEE

Meeting held on November 20, 2000
Heriot Bay Inn, Quadra Island

In Attendance:

Doreen Thompson
Michael Gibbons
Glen Carleton
Jim Abram

Bill O'Connor
Martin Amiable
Ralph Nursall

Lynn Nash
Tim Walters
John Springman

BC Ferries:

Tony Monaghan
Ann Carpenter
Rick Kitto
Harry Breurkens
Jock Palmer
Jim Huffman
Nancy Cameron
Geoff Dickson

Marine Superintendent, IIS (N)
Manager, Customer & Community Relations
Maintenance Technician
Senior Captain, Cortes Vessel
Senior Captain, Quadra Vessel
A/Senior Captain, Quadra Vessel
Public Consultation Co-Ordinator, Fleet House
Assistant Vice-President, Marketing & Business
Development, Fleet House

Guests:

Doug Wright

Ministry of Highways

Facilitator: Tony Monaghan.
Meeting called to order at 11:05 am.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Tony Monaghan

- A review of the Agenda was made and accepted.

TARIFF PRESENTATION

Geoff Dickson
Nancy Cameron

- After an overview of the tariff review process and information on the three implementation options were presented at the meeting, a very vocal discussion took place. Some of the views expressed were:
 - BC Ferries is a public service, not a transportation business, so therefore it should be free. The majority of comments supported this view, such as “our sense of equity is that our routes should be part of the provincial highway system.”

- Higher fares will have a negative impact on customers, on the community, and on the regional economy, with many comments like “even small increases have a big impact on lower income-earners.”
 - Because of the degree of impact on a small, dependent community, BC Ferries should seek extra revenue elsewhere, including a higher provincial and government subsidy, higher frequent-user discounts and higher single-ticket prices, and charging the Mainland routes more in order to reduce the fares on the smaller routes.
 - Members of the general public feel that they haven’t received enough information about the tariff review and the tariff proposal. To address this, the Ferry Advisory Committee requested another public meeting on Quadra Island on December 3 to further discuss the community’s concerns. The meeting will be held at the Quadra Elementary School gym from 1-4 p.m.
- Regrets were passed onto the Advisory Committee’s on behalf of the First Nation’s Representatives unavailability due to a previous commitment.

SCHEDULE SATISFACTION:

Tony Monaghan

- BC Ferries is willing to tailor schedule changes within the current funding.
- BC Ferries has reviewed the census data for the next fifteen years as of this year. The census data has indicated that the Cortes Vessel will be able to carry the forecasted ridership. Near the end of the fifteen year forecast, the next step will be to have 2 shifts per day, to increase capacity with increased daily sailings.

Discussion followed:

Q: Would the Quadra Advisory Committee consider daily assured loading on the 0905 hours sailing for Cortes residents?

A: This is a matter for the Campbell River/Quadra/Cortes Committee to reach agreement.

Q: Quadra residents are unable to fly on the first morning airline flight. Would BC Ferries make the first sailing earlier than 0615 hours?

A: BC Ferries will allow the first sailing to be earlier, however the last sailing of the day must also end earlier. Schedule connections to Cortes must also be considered. The Quadra and Cortes Advisory Committee Members, Jock Palmer and Harry Breurkens will form a sub committee to review this concern.

Q: A concern was expressed of having the M.V. Nimpkish during winter on Cortes.

A: BC Ferries will look at the availability of vessels and their capacity for winter versus summer, however the Nimpkish is only used as a relief vessel when the Tenaka goes to refit or dry-dock.

PHASE TWO PLANNING – UPLAND DEVELOPMENT

**Jock Palmer
Rick Kitto
Doug Wright**

- Jock, on behalf of BC Ferries, distributed copies of the phase 2 plans and gave a detailed description of the proposal. Jock reiterated the importance and safety issues of planning for the future growth of Quadra Island. BC Ferries is seeking conceptual approval from the Advisory Committees to proceed on this project.

Discussion followed:

Q: What is the cost of this project?

A: The project has not been costed; however the estimated development cost is approximately \$350,000.00

Q: Why is Rudder Road not left open to be utilized as a Harbour entrance and exit?

A: The Department of Highways can not reduce the grade to less and 12%, whereas the new access will have a minimal grade.

Q: Could the Quadra Advisory Committee have this diagram of the proposed Phase 2 development for their December 3rd Public Meeting?

A: Rick Kitto will have the sketch enlarged and available for the meeting. Jock Palmer will be present at the meeting for questions.

Q: Was passenger access from the Quadra ferry connected directly to the bike path at Rudder Road?

A: Yes

Q: Will fresh water still be pumped off the ferry to the holding tank for washroom use?

A: We hope to in the future drill a well on the Upland Property.

Q: Will BC Ferries provide free parking on the new development of the Upland Property?

A: The remaining undeveloped portion of Phase 2 will be too steep for parking.

Q: Will visibility be a concern coming out of the harbour onto the new road and entering traffic exiting the ferry?

A: No, visibility will be much better allowing traffic to blend with off loading ferry traffic.

Q: Will visibility to the north proceeding up the hill while exiting the harbour be a concern?

A: The crown adjacent to Green Road will be removed to allow better visibility.

Regional Director, Jim Abram and the Advisory Committee supported BC Ferries to proceed on the proposal of Phase 2 Upland Development.

- Meeting adjourned at 1440hours