



**SOUTHERN SUNSHINE COAST  
FERRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**February 7, 2002**

**9:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.**

**Greene Court Hall, Sechelt, BC**

**Attendees:**

***Committee***

Ed Steeves, Chair  
Jakob Knaus  
Conchita Harding  
Angela Letman  
Allan Crane

***BC Ferries***

Captain Steve Graham  
Gary Leitch  
Gerry Parker  
David Elliott  
Clive Johnston  
Peter Hildebrand  
Deborah Dykes

Absent: Don Murray, Byam Cameron, Barry Cavens

**1.0 Call to Order**

Chair Steeves welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2.0 Introductions**

The Honourable Harold Long, MLA Powell River – Sunshine Coast was introduced, as was Bill Davey, Transit Manager, Sunshine Coast Transit.

**3.0 Approval of Agenda**

On-time performance was added to the agenda. Motion to accept was moved by Allan Crane and seconded by Angela Letman. Motion carried.

**4.0 New Member**

Motion to add Barry Cavens, member of the Sunshine Coast Commuter's Association, as a new member of the Southern Sunshine Coast Ferry Advisory Committee made by Jakob Knaus and seconded by Angela Letman. Motion carried.

**5.0 Previous Minutes**

Motion to accept minutes of November 1, 2001 meeting was moved by Allan Crane and seconded by Conchita Harding. Motion carried.

**6.0 Business Arising**

Jakob Knaus stated that the committee had sent a letter to BC Ferries about tariff and had received a reply. The committee disagrees with BC Ferries position on equity rates for the northern routes and the current rate structure for Route 3. The committee feels the Route 3 rates should be lower than they are.

## **7.0 Delegations**

Joe Brooks, Chair of the Sunshine Coast School Board made a presentation requesting BC Ferries amend the tariff to allow Sunshine Coast students to travel free of charge for field trips, school sponsored events as well as junior associations such as minor hockey, instead of receiving a discount.

A discussion ensued about student tariff. BC Ferries is in the process of reviewing its student tariff policies.

Wendy Hunt, President of the Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts made a presentation to the committee regarding the Festival of the Written Arts, the Coasters Car Club and the Drag Races. These events will take place on the Coast on August 10 and 11, 2002. The event organizers are concerned about overloads on the Sunday afternoon/evening leaving the Sunshine Coast. Customer survey data from the previous years' events was presented.

## **8.0 Correspondence**

A package of correspondence from the public regarding schedule proposals was circulated.

## **9.0 Communications**

No issues arising.

## **10.0 Draft Summer Schedules**

BC Ferries presented four draft options for summer schedules based on the feedback received to date. The various options focus on on-time performance, commuter sailings and a later sailing. Public feedback regarding the schedule options must be received by February 22, 2002.

## **11.0 Parking**

Last meeting, BC Ferries advised that parking rates at the terminals would be increasing in January 2002. The implementation has been delayed, and will go into effect in the spring. The rates will increase by \$1.00 per day. Parking rates at Langdale were implemented in 1996 and the rates of \$1.00 per 16-hours and \$1.00 for 17-24 hours (maximum fee of \$2.00 per day) were guaranteed for one year. Monthly parking will increase from \$50.00 per month to \$60.00 per month. Yearly rates will remain at \$500.00. Formal notification will be issued prior to the rate increase.

A motion was made by Jakob Knaus that, "parking rates should remain at the present level until the tariff rates are moved to the equity level", seconded by Angela Letman. Motion passed.



## **12.0 On-Time Performance**

On-time performance is very important to BC Ferries and its customers. The corporation has certain clearance procedures that must be conducted prior to departure. These procedures do take several minutes to complete, and cannot commence until all passengers and vehicles are aboard the vessel. BC Ferries will be implementing the “five-minute cut-off” rule for foot passengers and vehicles at its Langdale terminal and will advise customers when this will take effect. Once in effect, traffic for every sailing will be closed five minutes prior to the scheduled sailing time. The issue of on-time performance emerged as one of the major items raised by the public at the October meetings, and the customers want BC Ferries to address this matter.

## **13.0 Update – List of Issues**

The committee ran through the list of issues previously identified and BC Ferries gave the status of each item. Reservations for small commercial vehicles (under 5500 kgs.) were omitted from the list in error and will be added.

Captain Graham indicated that he would give direction to the crew to leave sufficient space to board any late foot passengers so they can access the stairs/elevator.

*Action: Captain Steve Graham*

Captain Graham also stated that he would re-assess the request for bike racks on board the Queen of Surrey again.

*Action: Captain Steve Graham*

## **14.0 Update on Status of Horseshoe Bay Terminal Construction**

David Elliott provided an update on the status of construction at Horseshoe Bay. Major milestones include: occupancy of foot passenger/administration building by February 2002; berth work would be complete by the end of March; vehicle toll booths located to top of hill by the summer; parkade will be open to the public by the fall; and the entire project will be complete by the end of the year.

The committee expressed concern about the traffic signal. A discussion ensued about signage.

## **15.0 Next Meeting**

Date, time and location of next meeting to be determined.

Meeting adjourned 1:15 p.m.

Approved by:	<u>Captain Steve Graham</u>	Date: February 14, 2002
	Chair Ed Steeves	Date: February 19, 2002