

News Release

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MV QUADRA QUEEN II RETURNS TO SERVICE FOLLOWING \$15 MILLION UPGRADE

VICTORIA – BC Ferries is pleased to announce the Quadra Queen II is returning to service on the Port McNeill – Alert Bay – Sointula route next week, following an 11-month life extension project, which prepares the 41-year old vessel for another 20 years of service.

The ship spent approximately eight months at Point Hope Maritime in Victoria, B.C. undergoing the majority of the work at this local shipyard and three months at BC Ferries' Fleet Maintenance Unit. Work for this major capital investment included:

- New state-of-the-art lifesaving appliances
- Full upgrade of all accommodation areas including new washrooms
- New wheelhouse structure
- New propellers and shaft lines
- New gearboxes and generator sets
- New bulbous bow
- New sewage system and holding tank
- Complete blasting of hull and superstructure

- New heating and ventilation system
- New fire detection and protection system
- New thermal and fire insulation
- New freshwater tank
- New bow thruster unit
- LED lighting
- New electrical cabling systems
- Removal of asbestos

"At BC Ferries we are always looking for new and innovative ways to promote our environmental stewardship as well as reduce our costs," said Mark Collins, BC Ferries' Vice President of Engineering. "On the Quadra Queen II project, we applied a new technology underwater hull coating that used less paint and doesn't require full blast cleaning at subsequent dry dockings. The low friction surface means fuel savings which translate into a reduction of CO2 emissions and operational costs. We also removed all asbestos from the ship, improving the quality of the environment for our passengers and crews."

BC Ferries spends between \$80 million to \$120 million in a year in B.C. on maintenance, refit and major capital projects. In the past five years, BC Ferries has spent approximately half a billion dollars in B.C. on these important investments in its fleet.

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