June 19, 2014

**BC FERRIES ELIGIBLE FOR MORE THAN $1.1 MILLION IN SAVINGS DUE TO MAJOR SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS**

Since its inception, SailSafe, a joint initiative between BC Ferries and the BC Ferry & Marine Workers’ Union, has been paying off through improved workplace safety, and is now paying off financially. The program, which focuses on injury prevention and employee wellness, has landed the company WorkSafeBC’s Certificate of Recognition (COR). As a result, BC Ferries just received a rebate of $600,000 in WorkSafeBC premiums, in addition to the $500,000 in premium savings the company will realize this year.

Over the past several years, we’ve had a major shift in our safety culture with SailSafe by drilling down into what causes employee injuries and how to prevent them, as well as taking the learnings from near miss situations. Significantly reducing our time loss injuries and days lost due to injuries has resulted in safer, healthier employees and a financial savings in WorkSafeBC compensation costs.

In order to achieve the COR, a third party audit was conducted by a certified external auditor, which sampled 15 worksites (vessels and terminals) and interviewed approximately 250 employees, primarily front line staff. The COR audit assessed the company’s effectiveness in two main categories: Health & Safety Management and Injury Management.

Other recent BC Ferries’ achievements regarding safety include:

- Won the Lloyd’s List North America Safety Award in the Training category for improvements in navigation safety as a result of the new Bridge Simulation Training program
- Won the Latitude Productions UK International Safety Award for motivating and inspiring employees to reach for world-class safety performance
- Reduced employees’ time loss injuries by 60 per cent since inception of SailSafe in 2007
- Reduced employees’ days lost due to injuries by 57 per cent since 2007

The COR certification provides for annual premium rebates from WorkSafeBC of up to 15 per cent, which will help fund further safety initiatives going forward and help reduce fare pressure over the long term.

Sincerely,

Mike Corrigan
President & Chief Executive Officer