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BC FERRIES ANNOUNCES NAMES FOR THREE NEW SUPER C VESSELS
- Coastal Renaissance, Coastal Inspiration and Coastal Celebration -

VICTORIA – BC Ferries has selected Coastal Renaissance, Coastal Inspiration and Coastal Celebration as the names for its three new Super C-class vessels that will begin operating between Horseshoe Bay-Departure Bay and Swartz Bay-Tsawwassen early in 2008.

An advisory board comprised of local newspaper reporters and BC Ferries' employees selected the names after reviewing 7,602 entries submitted during the Name the Super Cs contest that ran from October 18, 2005 through January 31, 2006.

The first Super C-class vessel, Coastal Renaissance, was selected to signify the renewal of BC Ferries as an independent, commercial company. The second vessel, Coastal Inspiration, was chosen to reflect the inspirational beauty of coastal British Columbia, which is also captured in the interior design of the new vessels. Coastal Celebration, the third vessel name, was chosen to reflect the anticipated celebration that BC Ferries and its customers will have once all three of these new vessels have entered the fleet.

“These names represent the important role that BC Ferries plays in life on the coast,” said BC Ferries' Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Mike Corrigan. “The names Coastal Renaissance, Coastal Inspiration and Coastal Celebration signify a new beginning for BC Ferries as we embark on a long-term plan to revitalize our fleet.”

Before reviewing the entries, the advisory board reconfirmed the names should reflect BC Ferries' role as an independent company; appeal to employees and customers; signify the geographic area the company operates in; be original, creative and memorable; and be respectful to the communities the vessels will serve.

After reviewing the submissions, the advisory board determined it was necessary to combine elements from different entries to create names that would meet all of the selection criteria. The names Coastal Renaissance, Coastal Inspiration and Coastal Celebration are the result of combining names that were submitted by various entrants.

“We were extremely pleased with the enthusiastic response to the contest from our employees and customers,” said Corrigan. “The advisory board carefully reviewed each submission and, after much discussion, unanimously agreed on the three names that best met the naming criteria for our Super C-class vessels.”

In accordance with contest rules, since no one entrant submitted the selected names in their entirety, all eligible entries were entered into a random draw for one of three grand prize packages, including two nights at a B.C. resort, dining gift certificates and travel onboard BC Ferries. The list of winners is available at www.bcferrries.com.

BC Ferries is also sending a roundtrip pass for a vehicle and driver to the 129 members of the public who submitted a portion of the selected names. The 30 employees who submitted a portion of the selected names will each receive a BC Ferries gift certificate.

“Although we combined portions of name submissions to arrive at the final selections, we wanted to send a special thank you to the 159 entrants who provided us with great suggestions that we could build on,” said Corrigan.

The first of the Super C-class vessels, which are being built by Flensburger Schiffbau-Gesellschaft of Germany, will arrive in British Columbia by December 2007, the second in March 2008 and the third by June 2008.

The new Super C-class vessels are among the first of BC Ferries’ Newbuild Program that will see 22 vessels built over the next 15 years.

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