

For Immediate Release
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December 13, 2007

COASTAL RENAISSANCE ARRIVES TODAY

VICTORIA – Coastal Renaissance, the first of three new Super C-class vessels built for BC Ferries, arrives in British Columbia today. The vessel arrived in B.C. waters this morning after a 48-day, 9,990 nautical mile journey from Germany and is being met with much excitement.

The vessel will debut in Victoria, Vancouver and Nanaimo all in the same day. After passing Beacon Hill Park in Victoria, Coastal Renaissance will proceed to Vancouver and make its way under the Lions Gate Bridge during the noon hour. The ship will then make a 360 degree turn in Vancouver Harbour, showcasing the massive photographic invitation to the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games that appears on its hull to thousands of onlookers.

Both North Vancouver and Vancouver waterfronts near Lonsdale Quay and Canada Place will offer excellent viewing opportunities for Lower Mainland residents to see the new vessel. Coastal Renaissance will then proceed to its new home at BC Ferries' Departure Bay terminal in Nanaimo.

“We’ve been waiting for this momentous day since we signed the contract for the new Super C-class vessels three years ago,” said David L. Hahn, BC Ferries’ President and CEO. “This is a proud day indeed for our employees and for all British Columbians as they finally get a first hand look at this spectacular new ship.”

After Coastal Renaissance docks in Nanaimo and final inspections are completed, the ship will be officially handed over to BC Ferries. In the coming months, crews will be trained and familiarized in the operation of this brand new state-of-the-art ship, the largest double-ended ferry in the world. Coastal Renaissance will enter service on the Departure Bay – Horseshoe Bay route in March 2008.

Public open houses are being scheduled in Vancouver, Nanaimo and Victoria for late January and early February 2008 to give all members of the public a preview of BC Ferries’ newest ship. Details about the public open houses will be issued shortly.

- 30 -

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MV COASTAL RENAISSANCE

- Coastal Renaissance, the first of three brand new Super C-class vessels, arrived in B.C. on December 13, after a 48-day journey from Flensburg, Germany.
- The voyage was 9,990 nautical miles.
- The vessel departed Germany on October 27 and stopped for fuel in Las Palmas, Canary Islands; Cristobal, Panama; Ensenada, Mexico and Long Beach, California.
- Coastal Renaissance will enter service in March 2008 and all three new Super C-class vessels will be in service by summer of 2008, improving the travel experience on the Lower Mainland – Vancouver Island routes.
- The first vessel, Coastal Renaissance will provide service between Departure Bay and Horseshoe Bay. The second vessel, Coastal Inspiration, will serve on the Duke Point – Tsawwassen route and finally Coastal Celebration, the third ship will carry customers between Swartz Bay and Tsawwassen.
- Construction on the two remaining ships, Coastal Inspiration and Coastal Celebration will be completed in January and May 2008, respectively.
- The Super C-class vessels will be the largest double-ended ferries in the world.
- The three 160 metre, 21,980 gross tonne vessels are built from 88 large steel sections at Flensburger Schiffbau - Gesellschaft (FSG) in Germany.
- The ships will carry 1650 passengers on two passenger decks and 370 vehicles on two vehicle decks with a service speed of 21 knots delivering a whole new level of customer service.
- The ships will feature a diesel-electric propulsion system/power station that is one of the largest and most economical of its kind in the world.
- The contract with FSG is a design-build contract that transfers the risk of the project away from BC Ferries and provides substantial guarantees in terms of delivery dates, performance criteria, cost certainty and quality construction.
- FSG is responsible for delivering the vessels to B.C. where title transfer will occur.
- FSG is responsible for building vessels that comply with all Transport Canada regulations, as well as classification (international shipbuilding standards) and environmental regulations.

- 30 -

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