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BC FERRIES' BRAND NEW CABLE FERRY COMING SOON

VICTORIA – BC Ferries' newest vessel will be plying the waters of Baynes Sound between Buckley Bay on Vancouver Island and Denman Island late this summer. This is the first of four new ferries that the company will introduce into service as part of the newbuild program between now and the summer of 2017.

“The cable ferry project is on-scope and on-budget with the expenditures approved by the BC Ferries Commissioner, and we look forward to receiving a well-built vessel very soon that will safely carry millions of customers well into the future,” said Mark Wilson, BC Ferries' Vice President of Engineering.

Construction of the 78.5 metre cable ferry is nearing completion at Seaspan's Vancouver Shipyards in North Vancouver. The cable ferry will be towed up to its new route in the latter part of May and attached into the cable system. The three cables will be strung in late April and go through a series of tests prior to arrival of the cable ferry. Once the cable ferry is in place with cables attached there will be rigorous sea trials and cable change outs to ensure the system meets all operational and safety requirements. In June and July, BC Ferries' crews will undergo extensive training and familiarization on the cable ferry in preparation for passenger and vehicle service. After receiving certification from Transport Canada and classification society Lloyd's Register, the cable ferry will enter service by late summer.

Brand new berths have been built at both Buckley Bay and Denman Island to accommodate the cable ferry system which will deliver decades of efficient and dependable service. Ruskin Construction Ltd. and Vancouver Pile Driving Ltd. completed marine structures and upland construction earlier this year, which will provide improved terminal compound layouts for loading and unloading vehicles on both sides of the route.

“The cable ferry will provide the same level of safe and reliable service that our Denman and Hornby Island customers have come to expect, while realizing substantial cost savings of over \$80 million over the 40-year life of the project compared to the current traditional ferry service,” said Wilson.

In addition to the cable ferry, BC Ferries is also building three dual-fuel intermediate class ferries at Remontowa Shipyards in Poland, which will enter service in 2016 and 2017.

Under contract to the Province of British Columbia, BC Ferries is the service provider responsible for the delivery of safe, efficient and dependable ferry service along coastal British Columbia.

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Photos attached

Media Contact:
BC Ferries, Media Relations
Victoria: (250) 978-1267

Customer Contact:
Victoria: (250) 386-3431
Toll-free: 1-888-BCFERRY (1-888-223-3779)



New berth at Buckley Bay terminal with computer-aided design drawing of cable ferry in the dock



New berth at Denman West terminal with computer-aided design drawing of cable ferry in the dock