

For Immediate Release
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July 28, 2015

**BC FERRIES ANNOUNCES NAMES FOR THREE INTERMEDIATE CLASS
VESSELS
Salish Orca, Salish Eagle, Salish Raven**

VICTORIA – Following a contest in which BC Ferries received more than 7,100 entries, a panel of judges has selected Salish Orca, Salish Eagle and Salish Raven as the names for its new intermediate class ferries currently under construction. Salish Orca will enter service on the Comox – Powell River route late next year. Salish Eagle and Salish Raven will begin operations in the Southern Gulf Islands in 2017.

A panel of 12 judges comprised of representatives from local media, Ferry Advisory Committee members and BC Ferries' employees selected the three names after reviewing the entries submitted during the Name a Ferry contest that ran from May 19 through June 9, 2015.

The names Salish Orca, Salish Eagle and Salish Raven were chosen to honour the Coast Salish people and the Salish Sea where these vessels will operate. To celebrate Salish culture, BC Ferries is working with the First Peoples' Cultural Council to select Coast Salish artisans to design artwork for the exterior and interior of the vessels. BC Ferries anticipates beautiful designs that both preserve and advance Coast Salish culture.

The Salish Orca is scheduled to arrive in British Columbia in the late summer of 2016 and is expected to be in service replacing the 50-year old Queen of Burnaby on the Comox – Powell River route in the late 2016, following extensive crew training and familiarization.

The Salish Eagle is scheduled to arrive in the fall of 2016 and will replace the 51-year old Queen of Nanaimo, sailing on the Tsawwassen – Southern Gulf Islands route. It is expected to commence service in early 2017. The Salish Raven is scheduled to arrive in the winter of 2017 and will also service the Southern Gulf Islands. It is expected to start service in the summer of 2017.

Quotes:

“These names honour the Coast Salish people and truly reflect both the west coast travel experience and the culture of British Columbia,” said Mike Corrigan, BC Ferries' President and CEO. “I would like thank the members of the judging panel who had a difficult job to select only three names from the thousands of great names that were submitted. I also want to thank all the people who embraced the contest and enthusiastically submitted their suggestions.”

“We are looking forward to working with Coast Salish artists and the BC Ferries team on this inspiring project to adorn the new ferries with Coast Salish Art,” says Tracey Herbert, Executive Director of the First Peoples’ Cultural Council. “This collaboration is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the vibrant and thriving cultural heritage found on the coast of the Salish Sea.”

Chief Clint Williams, Sliammon Nation said “I am pleased that BC Ferries has chosen the names for the ferries as they honour the Elders, Chiefs, People and the Traditional Territories of the Coast Salish people.”

“I thoroughly enjoyed working with the other members of the judging panel and felt it was a good process,” said Kim Barton-Bridges, Contest Judge and Chair of the Northern Sunshine Coast Ferry Advisory Committee. “It is cool to think that these vessels, and the names that we helped to choose, will be a part of BC’s history!”

Christa Grace-Warrick, owner of Island Tides Regional newspaper commented, “I enjoyed being a member of the judging panel and appreciated the amazing number and variety of submissions. Discussing and narrowing down the choices was a fantastic day-long team process. Now, hearing the final selection is exciting. Thanks to contest participants, our new ships will have names of which British Columbians can be proud.”

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.

Photos attached

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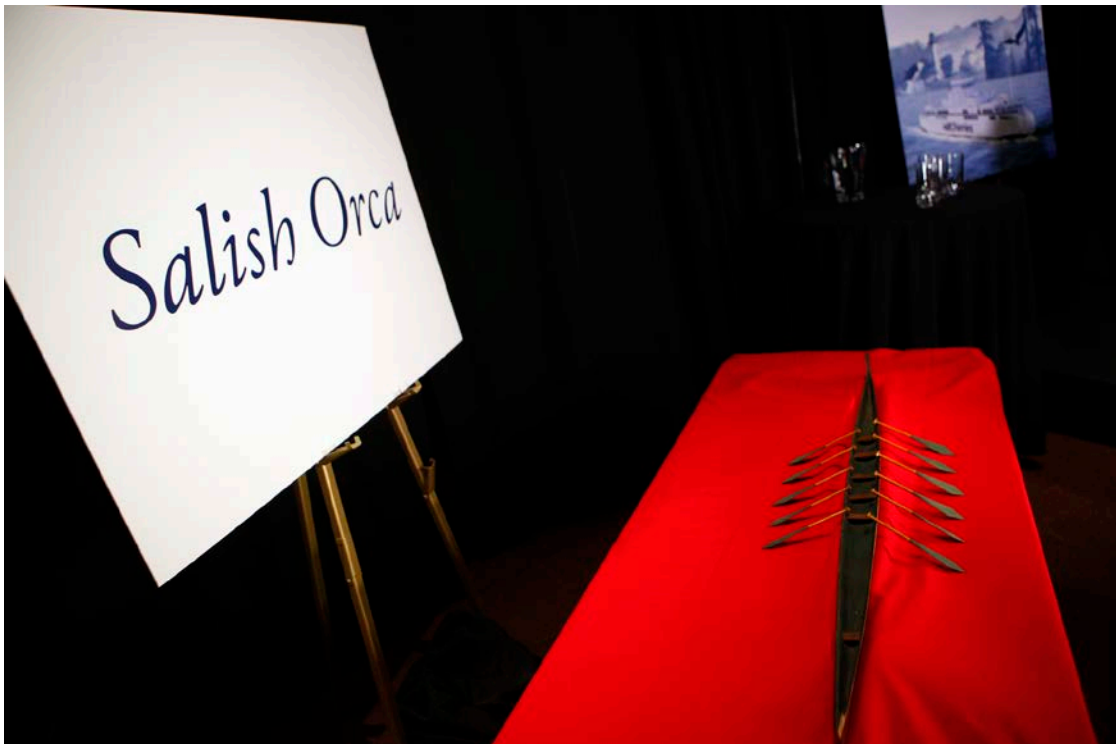
Songhees Paddle Dancers at the vessel naming ceremony.



Marianne Thomas, Esquimalt Nation says an opening prayer.



Chief Andy Thomas, Esquimalt Nation offering the welcoming address.



The first ferry name unveiled, Salish Orca, will sail on the Comox-Powell River route.



The second ferry name unveiled, the Salish Eagle, will sail in the Southern Gulf Islands.



The third ferry name unveiled, the Salish Raven, will sail in the Southern Gulf Islands.



Mike Corrigan, BC Ferries' President & CEO speaks at the naming ceremony held in the First Peoples Totem Gallery at the Royal BC Museum in Victoria.



Artist rendering of Salish-Class Vessels

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BC FERRIES' VESSEL NAMING CONTEST

- BC Ferries has selected Salish Orca, Salish Eagle and Salish Raven as the names for the new intermediate class ferries.
- Over 7,100 entries were submitted for the vessel naming contest.
- Nine entrants submitted one or two of the names in full that were selected.
- It's important to note that hundreds of entries contained part of the name, such as "Salish" or "Orca" but only nine entries contained both parts of the names that were selected.
- In accordance with the contest rules, since no one entrant submitted all three names in full, three individual draws were performed; one for each vessel name.
- Each entrant that submitted one of the vessel names in full was included in the respective draw for that name.
- Three individuals were randomly drawn for one of three grand prizes of \$500 in ferry travel. The other six entrants will receive a round-trip BC Ferries' travel voucher.
- Brian Douglas of Cobble Hill, B.C. won for submitting Salish Orca
- Pat Burns of Vancouver, B.C. won for submitting Salish Eagle
- Mark Crawford of Saanich, B.C. won for submitting Salish Raven
- The contest ran from May 19 through June 9, 2015.

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