

For Immediate Release
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BC FERRIES' SALISH ORCA NOW IN SERVICE **Small public event held for inaugural first sailings**

VICTORIA – BC Ferries welcomed its newest vessel, Salish Orca, into service today with a small public event on board the 6:20 and 8:05 a.m. inaugural sailings on the Comox – Powell River route.

President & CEO Mark Collins cut a ceremonial ribbon to mark the first official car on board the new vessel. Salish Orca is the first of three new Salish Class vessels that are dual-fuel and capable of operating on either natural gas or ultra-low sulphur marine diesel. BC Ferries' use of natural gas for these vessels will result in the reduction of an estimated 9,000 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year, the same as taking approximately 1,900 passenger vehicles off the road annually.

Passenger amenities on board Salish Orca include: a Coastal Café; Passages Gift Shop; comfortable lounge seating with panoramic views; children's play area; spacious outdoor seating on an open sundeck; pet area and elevators.

BC Ferries looks forward to welcoming its customers on board Salish Orca.

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.

- 30 -

Photo attached.

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BC Ferries officially welcomes the Salish Orca into service on the Comox – Powell River route with a ribbon cutting on the inaugural sailing. From l to r - Senior Chief Steward Margaret McDonagh, Senior Master Captain Michael Smit, Chief Engineer Ric Perry, President & CEO Mark Collins.