

Nanaimo Harbour Route 19 - Island Class Engagement

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Summary of Comments

Approximately 32 people attended during the three hour (3 pm to 6 pm) Open House on February 26, 2020 at the Nanaimo Harbour Terminal. The intent of the open house was to introduce the Island Class Vessels and update the residents on the Nanaimo Harbour and Gabriola Terminal Development Plans including rezoning, permitting and planned work. Format of the engagement was a series of panels illustrating the proposals displayed in tents just on the outside of the passenger ticket booth at Nanaimo Harbour Terminal. Proponent representative were Steven Mayall, David Hendry, Cody Britz and Halyna Tataryn from BC Ferries. The event was advertised in the local newspapers, on the BC Ferries website and at the terminal.

An employee engagement session was held between 1 – 3 pm, before the public event for terminal staff in the lunch trailer at the terminal.

Attendees were asked to complete a comment sheet, in total 5 feedback forms were returned from the employee and public sessions, which are summarized below. Feedback was generally positive with 4 out of the 5 people who completed the survey, stating they were **Somewhat** or **Very supportive** of the Island Class Ferries on the route.

Details of the responses from the feedback forms are summarized below.

Do you have any concerns or questions about the *Island Class* vessels, or the Nanaimo Harbour or Gabriola Island Terminal Development Plans you feel were not addressed in tonight's session? If so please detail them below.

General

- *Lots of change but looking forward to the challenges this holds*
- *Lovely looking boats*

Specific

- *Yes – there is not enough public parking, nor do we have adequate transit to facilitate this non-parking proposal*

How supportive are you of the introduction of the two new <i>Island Class</i> Ferries to your route?				
Not at all	I have questions	Not sure	Somewhat	Very
1			2	2
<p><i>General</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Very excited to see these changes</i> <p><i>Specific</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Environmental stats? Impact on near shore & existing trails.</i> 				
How supportive are you of the terminal development plans presented at today's session?				
Not at all	I have questions	Not sure	Somewhat	Very
1	2	1		1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>We need a foot passenger only agent during busy commuter runs</i> • <i>We don't need a coffee shop as we have one close by. We need more parking.</i> • <i>In non-peak periods when idle vessel is tied up at existing dock, concerns over any generator noise that may emit while vessel is idle. Also concern about any lighting that will be displayed from vessel while sitting idle during overnight period. Lighting within terminal property adjacent to existing promenade and residences raise a potential concern as to its impact on adjacent residences. Any proposal that results in the offloading of passengers directly on to the existing promenade would have a negative impact on adjacent residences i.e. volume, noise, potential security.</i> • <i>Environmental stats? Ecologically friendly? Supportive of public transportation?</i> 				
How helpful did you feel tonight's session was in understanding the changes planned for the Nanaimo Harbour – Gabriola Island route?				
Not at all	I have questions	Not sure	Somewhat	Very
	1		2	2
Was the time convenient for you? YES 5 No 0				
Was the venue convenient for you? YES 5				
<p><i>Other suggestions/comments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A closer staff washroom please</i> • <i>Bathroom excess (access?) for ticket booths when 2 people here at a given time</i> • <i>It would be a good idea to have 3 people at one time and on peak times 4 people</i> • <i>Very engaging BC Ferry reps – listened & discussed, positive.</i> • <i>I worry about the commercial agenda – electronic screen (against Islands Trust Req's) plans for retail, too much space for crew parking. Keep Gabriola beautiful. Thank you.</i> 				