

Ferry Advisory Committee (FAC) - Record of Meeting

Date:	May 29, 2017
Committee Name:	Chemainus-Thetis-Penelakut
Routes:	20

Attendees:

<p>For the FAC:</p> <p><i>Chair(s):</i> Sharon Cross, Keith Rush</p> <p><i>Members</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annie Cossey, Steve Frankel, Sue French • Freddie Mitchell, Mark Brown(councillors from PFN) 	<p>For BCF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malcolm Vale • Peter Simpson • David Hendry • Monique Turgeon • Lewis MacKay • Darin Guenette
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Points of Information/Agreement:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dangerous cargo – recent idea has been proposed to see DC sailings occur on alternating weeks. Penelakut noted they require use of DC sailings fewer than five times each year. Both communities would generally support this practice. 2. New Friday morning schedule feedback – two Fridays have passed since a new schedule has been implemented for that day. Penelakut suggests that the highest licence be planned for at least the last Friday of the month. BC Ferries suggests that each community provide advance notice for special events that may drive extra traffic, so licencing can be adjusted if possible. Discussion occurred around including ‘busy traffic expectations’ for both communities on a website that everyone can access. 3. Terminal upgrades – Thetis work began May 11 and going well. Project planners are looking at addressing the ramp movement issues (heavy vehicles) if possible during this time. Chemainus work expected to be completed by end-June. No plans for significant work at Penelakut in the near future. BC Ferries will be engaging the Penelakut community during that Terminal Development Plan as appropriate. 4. Electric bike with trailer – Thetis resident operating a business whereby she pulls a trailer full of produce on an electric bike, and she needs to be able to ride the bike off the ferry instead of walking it; BC Ferries will accommodate this. 5. Seating expansion – on high ‘foot-traffic’ sailings, there is a shortage of seating in the lounges. BC Ferries is looking at options for changing seating as part of an upcoming ‘quarter life upgrade’; meetings happening in June. 6. AEQ redefinition – Automobile Equivalent (AEQ) is a measure (6.1 m X 2.6 m) of space used at terminals and on vessels; this was recently recalculated to provide a consistent fleetwide measurement as a number of different measures had existed in the system for years.
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7. Fare Flexibility update – BC Ferries has a project underway to upgrade point-of-sale and website functionality. This will ultimately allow the organization to offer different pricing levels across sailing times. This dynamic pricing will be rolled out across the major routes first. Note: The Band office has experienced problems with E-Cards showing ‘no balance’ at ticket booth, even though the Band has loaded the cards.
8. Salish vessel update – three new Salish Class vessels entering service this year; the Orca/Eagle/Raven, which operate as dual-fuelled vessels.
9. Chemainus webcam – idea: if there was a webcam that broadcast a view of the traffic at Chemainus, customers could see traffic loads, and in particular, learn when there were no DC customers on scheduled DC sailings (thus freeing up those sailings for regular service). BCF: there is no current capability to provide web access for cameras, as the current security cameras consume the availability bandwidth. Related item – there are increasing reports of vandalism, break-ins, theft of vehicles in the Chemainus terminal parking area.
10. Vessel ops update: next refit is scheduled for Oct/Nov 2019 (1/4 life upgrade), with the current plan to use the Quinitza as a relief vessel.
11. Terminal ops update: nothing new to report.
12. BC Ferries has developed a process to allow FACs to submit requests for any notable service changes to BC Ferries, whereby BC Ferries will receive, analyse and reply to the request within 90 days. A part of this request is a form called the Significant Service Request (SSR) form.
13. BCF in contract negotiations with a shipyard to design/build the Minor 44 Class vessels; will replace all of our smallest class ships in the future. Reps will come to the communities late-summer/early fall for the next phase of engagement on this vessel, and ideally again prior to the final design being set.
14. Shuttle Class intro: replacement project for the Bowen Class vessels; is a 100 AEQ design. BCF would like to be in contract for these new vessels by the end of 2017 if possible. Look for future communications and engagement plans.
15. Chemainus terminal washrooms. The waiting room is locked at the end of the operating day, but customers noted it is closed too early (ie. Customers still have a need to use it prior to the final loading process).

Action Items¹:

Item	Who	By When
1. Issue a Service Notice notifying switch to bi-weekly DC sailings all year.	Lewis	Early June
2. Investigate possible issues with problem where E-Cards don't seem to be loading (master-sub cards).	Darin	Mid-June
3. Inform Security Officer of increase in crime in parking lot at Chemainus terminal.	Monique	Mid-June
4. Vessel crew will try locking the Chemainus waiting room ‘as the last thing they do prior to sailing’ at the end of the operating day.	Malcolm	summer

¹ Significant Service Request (SSR) requiring detailed analysis and formal decisions from BCF should be submitted using the SSR process. Submission of a SSR should be noted as an Action Item.