

Ferry Advisory Committee (FAC) - Record of Meeting

Date:	October 22, 2019
Committee Name:	Tri Islands
Routes:	25

Attendees:

<p>For the FAC:</p> <p><i>Chair(s):</i> Melissa Fletcher</p> <p><i>Members</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • George Alfred, Dennis Buchanan • Kane Gordon, Carmen Burrows • Ryan Mitchell, Stephanie Rockman 	<p>For BCF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeff West, Peter Simpson • Brian Anderson • Loriena Melnick • Darin Guenette
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Points of Information/Agreement:

1. Sointula line-up prior to first sailing. Hans and two BCF reps had ‘walked the lane’ earlier in the summer to understand if there were opportunities to improve the efficiency of how customers line up. They were looking at an option of ‘adding a lane’ on the roadway, and need to work on design and implementation of this idea. This requires further investigation into whether land is available to develop a second lane. In the meantime, there is merit in BCF considering erecting signage that would improve how people will be asked to line up.
2. Sointula assured loading. A request has recently come to the FAC and BCF seeking assured loading for physicians coming off the island, as they are getting held up. Discussion followed around how often, and when they would be travelling. Jeff will follow up with Carmen on specific details. Discussion followed on whether a similar assured loading service may make sense for freight vehicles, which travel Wednesday and Fridays.
3. Island Class update. The Island Class vessels are built and have undergone sea trials. BC Ferries is preparing to accept these ships, which will be shipped to Canada within the next few months. The vessel due to enter service on this route will likely be starting in the spring. More specific timelines will come to the FAC as BCF receives certifications and has trained crew members. Discussion followed around peak season capacity challenges, even as the Island Class ferry increases capacity notably from the Quadra Queen II. BCF will confirm how sewage is handled on the Island Class.
4. Sointula stop on first sailing. The Malcolm Island Advisory Commission has expressed interest in having the Island Class vessel make a stop at Sointula after leaving the first sailing from Alert Bay. BCF noted that they would want to see the ship operating on the route prior to then analysing if performance would allow the development of a schedule change that may allow this stop. Thus, BCF is asking for continued discussion amongst the two communities about allocation/sharing, while BCF waits to see how the ship performs

on the route prior to considering any changes. Discussion followed around the possibility of looking at future schedule revisions, perhaps even across the seasons.

5. BC Ferries update. Darin explained that the new website will be launched in early 2020, and this provides new functionality and appearance features. The fare flexibility features for the major routes are due to be launched soon after the new website. Note that the information displaying the level a sailing is full and parking lot status will now indicate how much space is available instead.
6. Misc. Discussion happened around addressing peak demand and challenges helping communities understand traffic patterns. As well, the future of when Island Class vessels may be able to convert to full electric propulsion was discussed. This capability is not a short term feasibility, as the power available, at a reasonable cost, is not ready.

Action Items¹:

Item	Who	By When
1. Follow up on Peter Bolza/Hans progress on how/where to erect new signage on Sointula, to manage line ups.	Jeff	End-year
2. Share current plan of how emergency drills may be carried out on the Island Class summer 2020.	Jeff to ask AI	End-year

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.