



August 22, 2024

Cowichan Valley Regional District

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British Columbia Ferry Services Inc.

Terminal Construction

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Subject: Request for Noise Bylaw Exemption for Construction Works to Thetis Island and Penelakut Island Ferry Terminals

Dear Members of the Cowichan Valley Regional District,

On behalf of BC Ferries, I am requesting a noise bylaw exemption for upcoming construction work at the Thetis Island and Penelakut Island ferry terminals. Construction is scheduled from beginning of September to end of November, 2024. Work will mainly be completed during the day between 7:00am and 5:30pm, Monday to Friday, however some work will need be completed in night shifts between 9:30pm and 6:00am.

In the summer of 2023, BC Ferries completed an engineering inspection of the infrastructure at each ferry terminal, which identified the need to replace and repair several structural elements of the timber trestle, vehicle ramp and other marine structures to maintain safe operation of the berth. The engineer recommended that the repairs be completed in 2024.

Repairs to the vehicle ramp, timber trestle and the installation of (1) temporary steel pile will have the most notable noise impacts for residents surrounding the terminals. The vehicle ramp and timber trestle repairs require night work and will involve construction noise such as sawing, grinding, hammering and operating tools and equipment. At Penelakut, this work is expected to take ~2 nights starting beginning of September. At Thetis, this work is expected to take ~15-20 nights starting mid-October. Installation of the temporary steel pile at Thetis will be completed during the day near mid-September and will include temporary noise disturbances as the pile is installed using a vibratory hammer.

BC Ferries and our contractor are committed to minimizing inconvenience to the community and will adhere to noise control best practices. BC Ferries will monitor noise levels on-site through an environmental monitor as part of our Environmental Protection Plan.

We understand and appreciate the efforts of the Cowichan Valley Regional District in upholding community interests and tranquility, and BC Ferries has kept these interests top of mind in making decisions regarding this project. Due to the importance of this work and after assessing various work methodologies, we have concluded that completing some of the work during night hours is the most

feasible solution to expedite construction and minimize the length of disruption to nearby neighbours. Furthermore, construction at night avoids interrupting highly-utilised sailings which would lead to additional traffic congestion around the terminal and unnecessary operational constraints, including disruptions to essential ferry services for commuters and dangerous goods. It is for these reasons that we are seeking your understanding and support for the proposed work schedule.

We are committed to maintaining open lines of communication with the district and the affected residents throughout the project. BC Ferries will circulate Service Notices and update the online Community Pages to notify the community and nearby residents of the upcoming work. We understand the community's well-being is important and are dedicated to completing the work efficiently and responsibly.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We are available to provide additional information and address any questions. We look forward to your favorable response and the opportunity to contribute positively to the community.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mak Rokic', followed by a horizontal line.

Mak Rokic
Project Manager, Terminal Construction
BC Ferries