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March 14, 2023

File No.: 01-0110-20

Via e-mail: [info@bcferrycommission.ca](mailto:info@bcferrycommission.ca)

Eva Hage  
British Columbia Ferries Commissioner  
PO Box 9270 Stn Prov  
Victoria, BC, V8W 9J7

Dear Eva Hage:

Re: BC Ferries' Performance Term 6 Input

At the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (SS LTC) meeting on February 9, 2023, the Local Trust Committee made the resolution below:

**SS-2023-08**

**It was MOVED and SECONDED,**

That the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee request staff to prepare a letter from Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee Chair to the BC Ferry Commissioner and copy the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure requesting BC Ferries work in partnership with Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee to link ferry terminal and service planning to proactive community planning that supports sustainable growth within the mandate of the Islands Trust.

**CARRIED**

The Islands Trust Council has a [protocol agreement with BC Ferries](#), as well as a [letter of understanding](#) to foster an ongoing consultative process between Islands Trust and BC Ferries to coordinate their respective roles within the Trust Area relative to the land use implications of ferry services in accordance.

There is a direct relationship between ferry service planning and managing growth on Salt Spring Island. Yet, the strategic focus for Performance Term 6 does not recognize the role ferry service plays in community planning on rural islands. Instead, it includes capacity enhancements and evolving with changes in in travel behaviour – in other words reacting to change without regard of its positive or negative impacts on rural islands.

The LTC would like to work with BC Ferries to improve our working relationship and integration of our practices to link BC Ferries vessel selection, scheduling, and terminal redevelopment planning to the LTC's proactive and long-term community planning goals.

***Preserving and protecting over 450 islands and surrounding waters in the Salish Sea***

Bowen Denman Hornby Gabriola Galiano Gambier Lasqueti Mayne North Pender Salt Spring Saturna South Pender Thetis

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The LTC requests an improved consultation process when BC Ferries considers major capital expenditures related to infrastructure or vessels servicing Salt Spring Island, and a collaborative approach to link ferry terminal and service planning to our proactive community planning, to support sustainable growth goals and the mandate of the Islands Trust.

Islands Trust is a special-purpose government representing over 30,000 people living within the Islands Trust Area and 10,000 non-resident property owners. The Islands Trust Area is located within Coast Salish territory and is the homeland of many Coast Salish Peoples who have called this place home since time immemorial. Islands Trust works in cooperation with others to preserve and protect the Trust Area and its unique amenities and the environment. The Islands Trust Area covers the islands and waters between the British Columbia mainland and southern Vancouver Island. It includes 13 major islands and more than 450 smaller islands covering 5,200 square kilometres.

Yours sincerely,



Timothy Peterson  
Chair, Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee  
Islands Trust  
[tpeterson@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:tpeterson@islandstrust.bc.ca)

Cc:

Hon. Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Adam Olsen, MLA, Saanich North and the Islands  
Nicolas Jimenez, Interim CEO, BC Ferries  
Salt Spring Island Ferry Advisory Committees  
Islands Trust Executive Committee  
Islands Trust website

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