

January 19, 2012

CONGRATULATIONS TO EMPLOYEES FOR OUR SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS

Later this morning, former B.C. Auditor General George Morfitt will release a comprehensive 2012 update on the safety performance of BC Ferries.

I am proud to report that while there is still work to be done, Mr. Morfitt has seen fit to give our company and its employees very positive feedback on the SailSafe program and our collective efforts to enhance the safety culture and practices at BC Ferries.

Mr. Morfitt reviewed our operations from top to bottom and interviewed dozens of employees in all facets of our business. He concluded the following:

“There has been, since our 2007 report, a significant improvement in the safety culture and practices within the company. The company directors, management and staff have demonstrated their commitment to safety being number one for both the travelling public and for BC Ferries personnel.”

Some of Mr. Morfitt’s more noteworthy findings are:

- With respect to the SailSafe program, the relationship between management and the union has improved significantly.
- Risk management has improved at all levels in the organization.
- Great improvements in bridge resource management including the Bridge Team Simulation project.
- Across the board improvements in training, including the creation of a new Ferry Academy.
- The new eFleet system will significantly improve access to accurate and up to date safety critical information.
- The introduction of the Standard Education and Assessment (SEA) program.
- Substantial improvements in Passenger Safety Management training which now exceed Transport Canada requirements.

I would like to acknowledge the support and leadership of the BC Ferry & Marine Workers’ Union in also playing a major role in our ongoing efforts to make BC Ferries a world class leader in safety and all aspects of our business.

The news release is attached and the 2012 Morfitt report can be viewed online at: http://www.bcferries.com/files/AboutBCF/Morfitt_Safety_and_BC_Ferries_Report.pdf

Thank you.

Mike Corrigan
President & CEO

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MORFITT ISSUES FOLLOW-UP SAFETY REVIEW – MAJOR IMPROVEMENT CITED

VICTORIA – BC Ferries released today a comprehensive follow-up review by former B.C. Auditor General George Morfitt on the operational safety audit conducted five years ago. The 73-page report reviews the status of 41 recommendations made by Morfitt in the original 2007 report.

The detailed safety review concluded that the company continues to operate a safe system and it states the following in its summary overview:

“There has been, since our 2007 report, a significant improvement in the safety culture and practices within the company. The company directors, management and staff have demonstrated their commitment to safety being number one both for the travelling public and for BC Ferries personnel. We found that awareness about, and actions taken in regards to, safety have increased substantially since we carried out our last review. Considering that many of our recommendations were of a complex nature and necessarily would take a considerable time to implement, the progress to date made by the company in respect of the recommendations is highly commendable.”

“The desire and dedication of our employees to change the corporate culture has been vital to the success of many of the new safety programs we’ve initiated,” said Mike Corrigan, BC Ferries’ President and CEO. “While we’ve made huge strides towards becoming a world-class safety leader in all facets of our operations, we constantly remind ourselves that it is a never-ending pursuit.”

Corrigan renewed BC Ferries’ commitment to continue to implement all of the recommendations made by Morfitt. Of the 41 original recommendations from the 2007 report, 28 have been fully or substantially implemented, 12 partially implemented and one item remains outstanding.

“Through the SailSafe program, which is a joint safety initiative between the union and the company, there is now mutual respect and better communication, trust and cooperation,” said Richard Goode, President of the BC Ferry & Marine Workers’ Union.

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Donald Hayes, Board Chair of British Columbia Ferry Services Inc. said, “I’d like to take this opportunity to thank the employees and management of BC Ferries for the excellent job they have done in improving health and safety at the company.”

The report entitled, “Safety and BC Ferries: A Follow-Up Review of the 2007 Report on Operational Safety at British Columbia Ferry Services Inc.” is available at:
http://www.bcferrys.com/files/AboutBCF/Morfitt_Safety_and_BC_Ferries_Report.pdf

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Media Contact:
BC Ferries, Media Relations
Victoria: (250) 978-1267

Customer Contact:
Victoria: (250) 386-3431
Toll-free: 1-888-BCFERRY (1-888-223-3779)