



December 20, 2024

His Worship
Mayor Rob Douglas
Municipality of North Cowichan
7030 Trans-Canada Highway
Duncan BC V9L 6A1

Reference: 329706

Dear Mayor Douglas:

Re: Crofton Ferry Terminal

Thank you for your email addressed to my predecessor regarding the proposed Crofton Ferry Terminal redevelopment plan. As the newly appointed Minister of Transportation and Transit, I am glad to have the opportunity to respond.

As an independent company, BC Ferries is responsible for its decisions relating to capital investments and operations, including the decision to defer the uplands components of the Crofton Terminal project. I am glad to see you have already been in contact with BC Ferries President and CEO Nicolas Jimenez regarding your concerns, and I understand his office will be reaching out to you to set up a meeting.

Ministry staff would be pleased to participate in discussions with staff from the Municipality of North Cowichan and BC Ferries to explore options for the provincial road network related to the existing ferry terminal and Chaplin Street. District Manager Michael Pearson can be reached at 250 751-3287 or Michael.Pearson@gov.bc.ca, and he would be happy to assist you and your team.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Mike Farnworth
Minister

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Copy to: Michael Pearson, District Manager
Vancouver Island District

Nicolas Jimenez, President and CEO
BC Ferries

November 13, 2024

Honourable Rob Fleming
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure
PO Box 9055
Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Via email: minister.transportation@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister

Re: Concerns Regarding the Proposed Crofton Ferry Terminal Redevelopment Plan

I am writing on behalf of North Cowichan Council to formally communicate our position regarding the proposed Crofton Ferry Terminal redevelopment plan. While we recognize the importance of upgrading the terminal facilities, we continue to have significant concerns about the current redevelopment proposal.

The plan adopted by BC Ferries does not include moving vehicle traffic away from Chaplin Street, which is a critical issue for our community. The existing and proposed terminal operations do not align with the interests and needs of our residents.

We are disappointed to hear that BC Ferries, due to needing to re-adjust its capital program, has indefinitely put on hold the plan to move the terminal off Chaplin Street. Leaving the terminal in its current location without making significant improvements is not acceptable. We have requested BC Ferries to come back to the table with a more thought-out alternative if relocating the terminal berth is not feasible, including the consideration of an alternative less expensive way to achieve the community goals.

We request that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure participate in discussions between North Cowichan and BC Ferries to explore ways of creating a new access road, potentially a roundabout, to loop around into the existing terminal. We understand that mitigations will be necessary due to existing infrastructure, such as the boat launch, but we believe these changes are crucial for the community's well-being.

We look forward to your support and collaboration on this matter.

Sincerely,



Rob Douglas
Mayor

mayor@northcowichan.ca

cc: North Cowichan Council
Ted Swabey, CAO, North Cowichan
Nicholas Jimenez, CEO, BC Ferries