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April 1, 2026

Municipality of North Cowichan

7030 Trans-Canada Hwy,

Duncan, BC V9L 6A1

Subject: Request for Noise Bylaw Exemption for Emergent Works at Crofton Ferry Terminal

Dear Members of the Municipality of North Cowichan Council,

On behalf of BC Ferries, I am respectfully requesting a noise bylaw exemption for emergent maintenance and construction activities at the Crofton Ferry Terminal.

BC Ferries completed the detailed design for Crofton Terminal Lay-By Berth Construction and Life Extension Project and engaged a marine contractor to perform the construction works. The project scope includes construction of a new lay-by berth and replacement of the existing trestle and berth structural and non-structural elements that will allow for introduction of two-ship service on Route 6 and will maintain safe and reliable operation.

The construction period is planned from May 4th, 2026, to April 30th, 2027. During this time, some of the work will be occurring at night between 8:00pm and 7:00am, Monday through Sunday.

Construction activities will be scheduled to take place during the day but as some of the work will have significant impact to ferry operation, night shift work will be required. Activities that are expected to occur at night will have relatively short durations starting with May 2026 but night shift work will increase in frequency between September and December 2026. BC Ferries remains committed to maintaining open communication throughout the duration of the project and will notify the Municipality and residents at least one week in advance of any scheduled night work.

BC Ferries and our contractor are committed to minimizing inconvenience to the community and will adhere to noise control best practices. Pile installation activities will generate the most noticeable noise for residents near the terminal and although exact noise levels cannot be predicted in advance, research indicates that vibratory installation of piles typically produces sound levels between approximately 60 dB to 80 dB at a distance of 50 feet (15 meters) from the noise source. These levels are considered relatively moderate construction noise. The duration of each pile installation will vary depending on

ground conditions encountered during construction. In the event that pile driving becomes necessary, BC Ferries will notify municipal representatives and the community in advance. To further manage potential impacts, an environmental monitor will be present on-site to monitor noise levels and ensure compliance with the project's environmental management commitments.

BC Ferries recognizes and respects the Municipality of North Cowichan's efforts to protect community well-being and minimize disturbances to residents. However, after evaluating several construction methodologies and urgency of work, nighttime has been identified as the most practical solution to expedite construction and minimize the length of disruption to nearby neighbours overall. Performing the work during daytime hours would require cancelling day sailings, potentially causing significant traffic congestion around the terminal and disrupting essential ferry services, including the transportation of commuters and dangerous goods, i.e. fuel. Furthermore, construction at night allows highly utilised ferry sailings to continue operating during the day without interruption. Evening sailing cancelations are expected to be required between September and December 2026 to allow for additional time to complete critical activities scheduled at night.

BC Ferries believes that proposed night work represents the most balanced approach to completing the work efficiently while minimizing the overall impact to ferry operations and the surrounding community. BC Ferries remains committed to maintaining open communication with the Municipality and residents throughout the duration of the project. We will provide updates on construction activities and respond promptly to any concerns that arise. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request. 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.

Sincerely,

Floridor Oprea
Project Manager
BC Ferries