

Media Advisory

For Immediate Release 18-024

July 12, 2018

BC FERRIES REPORTS ON FIRST PHASE OF ENGAGEMENT FOR SWARTZ BAY TERMINAL

More than 1,000 people participated in Phase 1; Phase 2 begins shortly

VICTORIA – BC Ferries reported today on the first phase of public engagement recently completed to help shape future plans for Swartz Bay terminal. Phase 2 of the engagement program begins soon.

More than 1,000 people participated in Phase 1 of the engagement, which included a stakeholder workshop, pop-up booths in the foot passenger and vehicle areas of the terminal, online engagement, and an employee workshop. Some examples of what customers told us they'd like to see are:

- An improved pick up/drop off area
- Improved waiting areas
- Better directional signage and cycling facilities
- More green space areas in the terminal
- Increased food vendor options, with a preference for healthy and local food choices
- Larger or more play areas for children
- Additional pet areas
- Integration of art and interpretive features highlighting Indigenous culture

A summary report is available at <u>bcferries.com/swbvision</u>.

The long-term plan for Swartz Bay terminal is to improve terminal efficiency and make a more enjoyable travel experience for customers. The terminal also needs to move people and goods more easily to support growth in the region.

BC Ferries is now in Phase 2 of its engagement program, and is in the process of reviewing feedback received from Phase 1. The company will take into consideration what we heard along with business priorities, and develop a few concept options for future terminal development that take into consideration the feedback customers provided.

Another stakeholder and public drop-in session will be held on July 19, with more pop-up booths at the terminal on July 20 and 22, a pop-up booth on board a sailing on July 23 and online engagement that will be available towards the end of the month to ensure the community can review and provide feedback on the different options. Customers can find details on these opportunities at beferries.com/swbvision.

When Phase 2 is complete, BC Ferries will report on what was heard, and then enter Phase 3 – a review of the feedback from Phase 2 to determine a preferred concept option.

BC Ferries will then go back to the community with this option, providing customers with another opportunity to provide input.

Terminal redevelopment will take place over several years. This is the first of three engagements related to the terminal redevelopment process. Public engagement will continue as the terminal is designed and before construction of the new terminal, scheduled to begin in 2021.

BC Ferries looks forward to hearing from customers, communities and stakeholders on their thoughts during this next phase of engagement. For more information on the engagement process and how to provide feedback, please visit <u>bcferries.com/swbvision</u>.

- 30 -

Media Contact: Customer Contact:

BC Ferries, Media Relations Victoria: (250) 386-3431

Victoria: (250) 978-1267 Toll-free: 1-888-BCFERRY (1-888-223-3779)