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BC FERRIES INTRODUCES MALASPINA SKY Island Sky renamed Malaspina Sky in community celebration on Oct. 24

VICTORIA – BC Ferries announced today the renaming of the Island Sky to Malaspina Sky. The company held an event on Oct. 24 to celebrate the renaming with the Sunshine Coast community.

Next year, BC Ferries looks forward to welcoming two new Island Class ferries into service on the Powell River – Texada and Port McNeill – Sointula – Alert Bay routes. These ships are named the Island Class, and will each have their own prefix – in this case “Island” – as the first part of the ship’s name. This naming standardized convention is part of BC Ferries’ recognition of B.C.’s coastal environment and the communities it serves. BC Ferries expects that over time, it may have up to 12 of the standardized Island Class ferries in its fleet.

“The name Malaspina Sky highlights the Northern Sunshine Coast, which is a beautiful part of our province,” says Mark Collins, BC Ferries’ President and CEO. “We understand changing the name of a ship is significant and wanted the community to be a part of the change.”

Collins says the event is the first in a series of milestones, with two new Island Class vessels arriving in B.C. in early 2020. “The new Island Class ships are efficient and use clean electric technology. In BC Ferries’ transition to a lower carbon future, we are building electric ships whose hybrid technology bridges the gap to when shore charging infrastructure is available,” continues Collins. “From the exterior details to the engines, the design reduces underwater radiated noise, lowers emissions and improves customer service.”

On Oct. 24, BC Ferries held a community celebration on board the Malaspina Sky at Saltery Bay. The event included speeches from President and CEO Mark Collins, the ship’s Godmother and former Senior Chief Steward Linda Coomber and Northern Sunshine Coast Ferry Advisory Committee Chair Kim Barton-Bridges. Passenger amenities on board Malaspina Sky remain the same and include: a Coastal Café Express, Passages Gift Shop, comfortable lounge seating with panoramic views, pet area and elevators.

BC Ferries looks forward to welcoming its customers back on board Malaspina Sky.

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Photo attached.



From left to right: Malaspina Sky Godmother Linda Coomber, Northern Sunshine Coast FAC Chair Kim Barton-Bridges and BC Ferries' President & CEO Mark Collins after unveiling the vessel's new name, Malaspina Sky, on October 24.