

**From:** [Mungall, Michelle EMPR:EX](#)  
**To:** [Sanderson, Melissa EMPR:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Inland Ferries  
**Date:** August 12, 2019 8:21:38 PM

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I just spoke with MHB. Can you please ask his MA to put into his reading package ASAP for his Wednesday briefing? It's not in there now. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 9, 2019, at 7:41 PM, Sanderson, Melissa EMPR:EX <[Melissa.Sanderson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Melissa.Sanderson@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

From Labour.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Sanderson, Melanie TRAN:EX"  
<[Melanie.Sanderson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Melanie.Sanderson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** August 9, 2019 at 3:42:24 PM PDT  
**To:** "Sanderson, Melissa EMPR:EX"  
<[Melissa.Sanderson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Melissa.Sanderson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Inland Ferries

FYI

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**From:** Scott, Samantha LBR:EX  
**Sent:** August 9, 2019 2:41 PM  
**To:** Sanderson, Melanie TRAN:EX <[Melanie.Sanderson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Melanie.Sanderson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Inland Ferries

Hi Melanie,

I emailed my DM and this is what he had to say...

**The essential services process is regulated by the Labour Relations Board. We have given them direction to start the process based on provisions in the Labour Relations Code. Basically they are aware that this dispute if it goes to a strike or lockout could impact the public. So they ask the Minister to direct them to designate essential services under the Code. I sent them that letter/direction a few weeks back. They then contact the union and the employer to begin the process to determine if there actually could be an**

impact on the public by a strike/lockout and if so how much – and then they mediate and adjudicate the necessary staffing levels to be provided by the union to ensure no harm to health, safety or welfare of the public.

In the health context, this usually relates to for example how many operating rooms to keep open at VGH (e.g., no elective surgery) and how many nurses should be there to staff those open rooms notwithstanding a strike. This is a very simple example.

In a bus dispute, generally the parties agree that the service is NOT essential at all to health, safety or welfare because there are alternatives – cabs, walk, bike, car.

In other public transport cases, the question about essentiality may be different. If no ferry to Sechelt, there are no groceries so there should be one ferry a day and X staff need to be there.

Each case is different. The public can write in but ultimately it is up to the union and employer to make the case and the LRB to mediate and adjudicate it and issue a decision. What is essential varies by industry, service, and situation – and there is no list of what is essential.

Hope this helps, and let me know if you need anything else.

**Cheers,**

**Samantha Scott** | Ministerial Assistant to the Honourable Minister Bains  
Ministry of Labour  
PO Box 9044 Stn Prov Gov, Victoria, BC, V8W 9E2 | 778-679-4889

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**From:** Sanderson, Melanie TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** August 9, 2019 11:49 AM  
**To:** Scott, Samantha LBR:EX <[Samantha.Scott@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Samantha.Scott@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Inland Ferries

Hi Sam,

Briefing note attached.

Thanks,

**Melanie Sanderson**

Ministerial Assistant to the Hon. Claire Trevena,  
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure  
250.880.9508