From: Barnetson, Luella

To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX; Minister, ENV ENV:EX; Minister, JTT JTT:EX; Horgan.MLA, John LASS:EX

Subject: Letter from Mr. Rich Coleman

Date: Thursday, August 10, 2017 09:37:37

Attachments: Letter from Interim Leader Rich Coleman.pdf

With Assoc DM for advice

Please find attached letter from Mr. Rich Coleman.

Kind regards,

## Luella Barnetson

Legislative Assistant

 $Leader's\ Office\ -\ Official\ Opposition\ |\ Room\ 109,\ Parliament\ Buildings\ |\ Victoria,\ BC\ |\ V8V$ 

1X4 |Tel: 250-357-8153 |Email: Luella.Barnetson@leg.bc.ca



Dear Premier Horgan:

I am writing to express concerns about your government's actions that will negatively affect future international LNG investment in British Columbia and could signal to all international investors that BC should be given a miss when decisions are made.

Yesterday, you were forced to apologize to Gordon Wilson, a hard-working public servant who did a remarkable job for our province as the BC LNG Advocate. I was disappointed that you and Minister Ralston chose to proactively summon reporters to denigrate Mr. Wilson's record, despite having requested and received access to numerous documents outlining his work. I hope this is not a preview of things to come for your government – it is a terrible and unprofessional example to the public service about how their work is valued.

Furthermore, it should come as no surprise to you that numerous representatives from international LNG companies have contacted me to express grave concern with the direction your government is taking. Your March, 2016 letter to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, co-signed with the now Minister of Environment and Climate Change, leaves the distinct impression that you are not interested in resource development. British Columbians cannot afford this.

The recent news that Pacific NorthWest LNG is not proceeding with plans to develop a \$36 billion investment should be an extremely troubling signal to you. That investment alone could bring thousands of jobs to northern British Columbia and millions of dollars to provincial revenue to support health, education, and social programs. The timing of their decision is so coincidental with your government's appointment that you cannot ignore the chilling effect that you are having on international investment.

Your decision to cancel the 2017 International LNG in BC Conference reinforces the notion that your government has slammed the doors to international investment, denying British Columbians the jobs and benefits they would bring.

I ask that you immediately clarify your position on LNG and international investment, renounce the letter you sent to CEAA, and start taking steps to encourage new industry in our Province. We cannot afford anything less.

I hope for the sake of our province that you will become a champion for responsible resource development - our children and grandchildren rely on the success of our healthy economy. Otherwise, we run the risk of heading back to a time that you and your Party are all too familiar with.

Sincerely,

Rich Coleman

**BC Liberal Official Opposition** 

Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 From: Heyman, George
To: Frampton, Caelie ENV:EX

Subject: FW: Updated info for Meeting with Minister Heyman

Date: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 20:28:42

Attachments: Meeting with Minister of Envronment 15-08-17.docx

#### E-copy

George Heyman | 賀佐治 | MLA Vancouver-Fairview Community office (604) 775-2453

From: "D'Eith, Bob" <<u>B.Deith@leg.bc.ca</u>>

Date: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 at 9:20 AM

To: George Heyman <<u>G.Heyman@leg.bc.ca</u>>

Subject: FW: Updated info for Meeting with Minister Heyman

Dear George,

Looking forward to seeing you today. Attached are some background notes that I will be referring to. Thought you might like them in advance.

Best,

Yours very truly, Bob D'Eith

MLA Maple Ridge - Mission

From: "Kreuzkamp, Sophia" < Sophia. Kreuzkamp@leg.bc.ca>

Date: Monday, August 14, 2017 at 4:55 PM

To: "D'Eith, Bob" < B.Deith@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Updated info for Meeting with Minister Heyman

**Sophia Kreuzkamp** | Constituency Assistant | Maple Ridge-Mission P: 604-476-4530 | 102-23015 Dewdney Trunk Road, Maple Ridge

#### 15 August 2017

## Meeting with Minister George Heyman- Environment and Climate Change Strategy

#### Key Issues:

- Fish ladder for Alouette River: Commitment for fish ladder
- Whonnock Aguifer: Need for study of aguifer
- ALR issues in Maple Ridge: Need to create an ALR plan for the region

#### Fish ladder for Alouette River:

According to the Alouette River Management Society (ARMS), since the construction of the Alouette River Dam in 1925, "there has been no natural access for fish into or out of the Alouette Reservoir without human assistance. All five species of salmon (Coho, Chum, Chinook, Pink, and Sockeye) and Cuthroat trout were in abundance before the dam was built, but became either detrimentally affected or extirpated due to low river flows coupled with the reservoir obstruction by the dam. Unfortunately at the time of construction, there were no provisions for fish bypassing the dam, resulting in a complete obstruction to upstream migration for all native salmon species — which still remains to date.

There is still hope for restoring lost species in the Alouette Watershed. Sockeye salmon are now returning in small numbers to the Alouette River, but cannot continue their life cycle in the reservoir unless people trap and truck them above the dam.

A fish ladder will change how fish are able to move through the Alouette Watershed. With free flowing access for fish between the reservoir and Lower Alouette River, salmon will be able to migrate according to their natural rhythms, have access to more spawning and rearing grounds, and will not endure the trauma from being trapped and trucked over the dam."

ARMS commissioned a report in 2010 from Peter Ward and Associates to assess the cost and timeline for building the fish ladder. At the time it was estimated that it would cost between \$2.8 million dollars for the construction of the fish way/ladder to reintroduce the various species of salmon and also make it less traumatic for the salmon that is currently there. We can forward all the reports that ARMS and BC Hydro has commissioned that show the feasibility of a fish ladder.

Over the past 10 years ARMS has studied the river to see if different salmon and fish do indeed return when waterways are viable and they have found success in many of their studies. This included tracking returning kokanee fish to see if they made it out to sea, two of which were tracked in Juan de Fuca Straight. In 2007 ARMS was excited to find that after over an 80 year absence, sockeye returned to Alouette River. DNA on those sockeye confirmed that the returning sockeye were of Alouette origin – direct descendants of the sockeye that were landlocked since the dam construction in 1925.

While BC Hydro spent roughly \$1 billion on the dam and upgrades in recent years, the \$3 million for the fish ladder was not included.

Another large part of this fish ladder is that it has cultural and economic value. The cultural value of salmon for first nations is widely known, and in Maple Ridge the Katzie First Nation has partnered with ARMS on multiple projects to foster the return and reintroduction of salmon to Alouette River. As returning wild salmon stocks have been dwindling in BC, especially the Fraser River, helping to revive the fishing and tourism economy in Maple Ridge will also be helping to rebuild the salmon stock in our province. A fish ladder is a win-win for salmon, tourism, economy and our local first nations.

### **Grant Hill Aquifer-Whonnock, Ruskin and Thornhill**

The Grant Hill Aquifer supplies water for the communities of Whonnock, Ruskin and Thornhill. According to the Thornhill Aquifer Protection Society (TAPS), "the Grant Hill Aquifer is classified as a IIA aquifer, indicating a high level of vulnerability to contamination from surface sources. All of the residents on Thornhill and the neighbouring communities of Whonnock and Ruskin depend on this aquifer for clean drinking water and for agricultural activities. The city of Maple Ridge proposed to develop the Urban Reserve in the 2006 OCP and Thornhill was planned as the next phase for residential development. This raised concerns over the loss of clean water and the subsequent loss of agricultural endeavors. City water infrastructure would be brought into the Urban Reserve, however all homeowners who are outside the Urban Reserve and in the Agricultural Land Reserve would not receive access to this infrastructure. The Agricultural Land Reserve makes up one third of the total area and lies below the Urban Reserve. There were no resolutions forthcoming from the city."

One of the biggest issues to come from this is Tantalus labs, a federally licensed marijuana grower that will be using water from the Grant Hill Aquifer as the main source for their operation. Earlier this year it became BC's 10<sup>th</sup> Health Canada-licensed medical marihuana producer. The 40,000 square foot facility has the capacity to grow up to 10,000 kilograms of cannabis per year. According to the CEO, they planned to have their first crop at the end of this summer, with consistent production developed in time for sales to start sometime in summer 2018.

Since Tantalus Labs was approved to build in the Whonnock area there has been a lot of concern about the use of water from the aquifer and the damage and detrimental effects it could have on the surrounding residents that use the groundwater along with other famers that use the water for their small farms also on the ALR. Residents are also concerned over adverse property assessments of those that live near the facility being dropped.

Residents in Maple Ridge and especially in the areas that could potentially be affected have been asking for a study to be done on the aquifer and the short and long term effects that the new operation of Tantalus Labs, called SunLab, will have on the Grant Hill Aquifer.

#### Maple Ridge ALR: Plan for the region

While the ALR falls under the Ministry of Agriculture, it is important to address environmental impacts the ALR has, including waterways which are less protected on ALR properties. We would like to have a plan for the region when it comes to the ALR and how environmental issues that might arise will be included in it.

From: Minister, ENV ENV:EX
To: Correspondence Unit ENV:EX

Subject: FW: Camping Reservation Cancellation Fees

Date: Monday, August 21, 2017 09:45:15

Attachments: image001.png

From: Miki, Kathy [mailto:Kathy.Miki@leg.bc.ca]

Sent: Friday, August 18, 2017 11:30 AM

To: Minister, ENV ENV:EX Cc: Lucak, Dagmar LASS:EX

Subject: Camping Reservation Cancellation Fees

## Good Morning,

I have a constituent who is unhappy about paying cancellation fees for cancelled camping reservations related to the interior wild fires. The camp grounds were within evacuated areas.

Any information, or appeal process would be helpful.

Many thanks.



Kathy Miki

Constituency Assistant To
Laurie Throness, MLA (Chilliwack Kent)
#10 – 7300 Vedder Road
Chilliwack, British Columbia V2R 4G6
T (604) 858-5299
F (604) 858-5290
Toll Free 1-800-858-5299
W www.lauriethronessmla.ca
Email Kathy.Miki@@leg.bc.ca

From: Minister, ENV ENV:EX

To: Correspondence Unit ENV:EX

Subject: FW: Newcastle Island Ferry

Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2017 09:32:51

From: Krog.MLA, Leonard Eugene [mailto:Leonard.Krog.MLA@leg.bc.ca]

Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2017 9:05 AM

To: Minister, ENV ENV:EX

Subject: FW: Newcastle Island Ferry

The Honourable George Heyman, M.L.A, Minister of Environment & Climate Change Strategy Room 112, Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister,

Leonard received the attached email from <sup>s.22</sup>, one of his constituents, dated August 25, 2017, raising concerns about what she termed mismanaged services, provided by First Nations from Nanaimo to Newcastle Island and back. There is only one skipper to run 2 passenger vessels and when he is unavailable there are no sailings. She is not convinced that the demand is not there for the service as she witnesses numerous passengers walking away when they find that the wait is over an hour for a 10 minute sailing trip.

A couple of detailed emails from <sup>s.22</sup> to the management of Snuneymuxw First Nation are attached below, dated May 28<sup>t</sup> and August 25, 2017 respectively, detailing her calculation of financial losses due to poor management. There does not appear to be any responses to this correspondence. Leonard responded thanking her for informing him of the situation and requested that I pass it along to your office.

Yours truly,

Pauline Carroll, Constituency Assistant Leonard Krog, MLA, Nanaimo 4-77 Victoria Crescent, Nanaimo, BC Telephone: 250-714-0630 / Fax 250-714-0859 /

Email: leonard.krog.mla@leg.bc.ca

www.leonardkrog-mla.ca/

From: s.22

**Sent:** August 25, 2017 3:09 PM

To: Krog.MLA, Leonard Eugene < Leonard.Krog.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

**Subject:** Newcastle Island Ferry

Please forward our concerns to the appropriate provincial ministry.

It's heartbreaking to see what appears to be a miss-managed service to Newcastle Island in Nanaimo provided by First Nations. They have the vessels but only one skipper to run the 35 passenger vessel. When he is unavailable, this vessel is not used. If at the end of the season they say the demand was not there, that is incorrect. We observed daily countless people walking away when they were advised the wait would be over an hour as only the 12 passenger vessel was running. If bikes and equipment was transported, the passenger count was even less.

Hopefully there's a solution to this sad situation.

---- Forwarded Message -----

From: s.22

To: ncimanager@p-d-g.ca <ncimanager@p-d-g.ca>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2017, 2:58:14 PM PDT

Subject: Newcastle Island Ferry

Three months later and the problem continues. This week on our daily waterfront walks we observed only the 12 seat vessel running and the Grey Selkie heading up Newcastle Channel at noon while passenger overloads waited over an hour at the dock. The ticket attendant indicated last week the skipper was ill so the Grey Selkie wasn't running at all. What's the excuse this week? We did notice it was running today...thank goodness.

Why is there only one skipper for the Grey Selkie? You are losing hundreds of dollars a day and word of mouth by those having to wait over an hour to get to the island is not going to encourage others.

12 passengers x 2 trips per hour x \$5 = \$120 35 passengers x 2 trips per hour x \$5 = \$350

If bikes or equipment is transported, the revenue on the 12 passenger vessel is even less.

Calculating 6 hours of transporting to the island at capacity, you're losing \$1,380 a day (6 x \$230 per hour) which surely

would pay for someone to become qualified to skipper the vessel.

So sad to see very disappointed residents and visitors...they won't be back!

s.22

---- Forwarded Message -----

From: s.22

To: <a href="mailto:ncimanager@p-d-g.ca">ncimanager@p-d-g.ca</a> <a href="mailto:ncimanager@p-d-g.ca">ncimanager@p-d-g.ca</a> <a href="mailto:sent-general-gen

Subject: Newcastle Island Ferry

It's good Snuneymuxw First Nations has the opportunity to run the Newcastle Island ferry but from our observations this weekend, you're turning away more passengers than you're carrying.

The Mar 2, 2017 article in the Nanaimo News Now publication shows a picture of the Grey Selkie and indicates 'SFN will use this boat for passenger ferry service between Nanaimo and Newcastle Island'. That's definitely not the vessel you've been using the past two weekends but is the one you need to be using. From observation past years, this vessel carried approximately 35 passengers plus room for several bikes and camping equipment and supplies. You're presently carrying 12 passengers max (10 when two bicycles were tucked inside) for a maximum of 24 per hour. For groups wishing to camp, there's no room for equipment and supplies and takes hours to transport everyone. For everyone taken to the island, they will experience long waits to return if they wait for the last few runs.

At noon today we observed over 30 potential passengers walking away as they had over an hour wait with only the 12 passenger boat in service.

The service two years ago provided by the Victoria Harbour Ferry had become this bad as they were only running one 12 passenger pickle boat. Last year the service was greatly improved when the Protection Island ferry was providing frequent service with more vessels and greater capacity.

You must be running two vessels back and forth with one being the Grey Selkie to move more people. Word of mouth will sink your business in this town. People want to visit Newcastle Island, but if they have to wait hours to get there, they will go elsewhere and discourage others from taking the

ferry.

I feel sorry for the poor employee who is having to advise potential customers of the long wait time...not good enough.

s.22

From: Murray.Rankin.C1A@parl.gc.ca

Subject: 311902 - Meeting request from Murray Rankin, MP

Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2017 15:00:15

Dear Ministers,

s.14,s.16

While we realize that this is a very last minute request that may not be possible, Mr. Rankin is hoping this meeting can happen next week, on Sept. 4, 5, or 6. He and his colleagues would be happy to meet in Victoria or Vancouver, whatever works for the Ministers.

Thank you for your help.

Best wishes, Alisma

# **Alisma Perry**

Constituency Assistant | Adjointe de Circonscription Office of Murray Rankin, MP (Victoria)| Bureau de Murray Rankin, Député (Victoria) New Democratic Party | Nouveau Parti démocratique

(TEL) 250-363-3600 | (FAX) 250-363-8422 <u>murray.rankin.c1a@parl.gc.ca</u> | murrayrankin.ca 
 From:
 Visco, Greg ENV:EX

 To:
 Miki, Kathy LASS:EX

Subject: RE: Camping Reservation Cancellation Fees
Date: Friday, September 22, 2017 13:34:00

Attachments: image001.png

Reference: s.22

September 22, 2017

Kathy Miki, Constituency Assistant for Laurie Throness, MLA Chilliwack-Kent

Email: Kathy.Miki@leg.bc.ca

Dear Ms. Miki:

Thank you for your email of August 18, 2017, addressed to the Honourable George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, regarding a constituent's concern about reservation cancellation fees. Minister Heyman has asked that I respond on his behalf.

I can appreciate your constituent's frustration at having their visit impacted by the recent park closures. Due to the serious nature of this summer's wildfire situation, BC Parks, in coordination with the BC Wildfire Service, was required to close numerous parks to protect public safety. As per BC Parks policy, when a park is evacuated or closed, and/or the sole access road to a park is closed, we provide full refunds of all fees including transaction service charges. If an evacuation order for a park is not in place, regular refund policy applies and a customer would be refunded the appropriate camping fees but not the transaction charges.

For a brief period this summer, BC Parks also allowed for visitors that had reservations in areas heavily impacted by smoke from the wildfires to cancel their reservations. Reservation holders cancelling for smoke related reasons were provided full refunds of their camping fees, but not the reservation fees, in keeping with our normal cancellation policies.

If your constituent had a reservation in a closed area, they would have received a direct refund of both camping fees and reservation fees automatically. This would have come directly from our service provider, Camis. If they were in a closed area, and for some reason did not receive a full refund, they should contact Ms. Leah Wilcock, BC Parks Recreation & Business Specialist at 778 698-4295 for assistance.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Jim Standen Assistant Deputy Minister BC Parks and Conservation Officer Service Division

From: Miki, Kathy [mailto:Kathy.Miki@leg.bc.ca]

Sent: Friday, August 18, 2017 11:30 AM

To: Minister, ENV ENV:EX Cc: Lucak, Dagmar LASS:EX

**Subject:** Camping Reservation Cancellation Fees

Good Morning,

I have a constituent who is unhappy about paying cancellation fees for cancelled camping reservations related to the interior wild fires. The camp grounds were within evacuated areas.

Any information, or appeal process would be helpful.

Many thanks.



Kathy Miki
Constituency Assistant To
Laurie Throness, MLA (Chilliwack Kent)
#10 – 7300 Vedder Road
Chilliwack, British Columbia V2R 4G6
T (604) 858-5299
F (604) 858-5290
Toll Free 1-800-858-5299
W www.lauriethronessmla.ca
Email Kathy.Miki@@leg.bc.ca

From: <u>Visco, Greg ENV:EX</u>

To: s.22

Cc: Krog.MLA, Leonard LASS:EX
Subject: RE: Newcastle Island Ferry

Date: Monday, December 4, 2017 15:48:00

Reference: s.22 December 4, 2017

s.22

Email: s.22 Dear s.22

Thank you for your email of August 25, 2017, addressed to Mr. Leonard Krog, MLA for Nanaimo, regarding your concerns about the Newcastle Island Ferry Service, provided by Snuneymuxw First Nation (NCI Ferry Service Ltd.), between Nanaimo and Newcastle Island Marine Park. As your enquiry falls under the responsibility of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, MLA Krog has asked that I respond on his behalf and I apologize for the lengthy delay in doing so.

As you may know, there is a Park Operator Agreement between the Province of British Columbia, represented by BC Parks, and NCI Ferry Service Ltd. to operate and maintain Newcastle Island Marine Park. This contractual agreement requires NCI Ferry Service Ltd. to provide a user-pay foot-passenger ferry service to transport park visitors and their gear between the Newcastle Island Ferry Terminal at Maffeo Sutton Park and Newcastle Island. NCI Ferry Service Ltd. is required to ensure that all vessels and vessel staff comply with the *Transport Canada Marine Transportation Acts* and regulations, *Canada Shipping Act* and regulations, *Canada Coast Guard Act* and regulations and all other applicable laws and regulations. There is also a requirement that the vessels (or a combination of vessels) must have a carrying capacity that guarantees a waiting time of no more than one sailing wait. We have noted your explanation that you were required to wait for more than one hour and therefore will be discussing this situation with NCI Ferry Service Ltd. to ensure similar situations do not occur again in the future.

Thank you again for taking the time to provide us with your information and express your concerns about this matter.

Sincerely,

George Heyman

Minister

cc: Leonard Krog, MLA, Nanaimo

From: Krog.MLA, Leonard Eugene [mailto:Leonard.Krog.MLA@leg.bc.ca]

Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2017 9:05 AM

To: Minister, ENV ENV:EX

**Subject:** FW: Newcastle Island Ferry The Honourable George Heyman, M.L.A,

Minister of Environment & Climate Change Strategy

Room 112, Parliament Buildings

Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister,

Leonard received the attached email from <sup>s.22</sup>, one of his constituents, dated August 25, 2017, raising concerns about what she termed mismanaged services, provided by First

Nations from Nanaimo to Newcastle Island and back. There is only one skipper to run 2 passenger vessels and when he is unavailable there are no sailings. She is not convinced that the demand is not there for the service as she witnesses numerous passengers walking away when they find that the wait is over an hour for a 10 minute sailing trip.

A couple of detailed emails from s.22 to the management of Snuneymuxw First Nation are attached below, dated May 28<sup>t</sup> and August 25, 2017 respectively, detailing her calculation of financial losses due to poor management. There does not appear to be any responses to this correspondence. Leonard responded thanking her for informing him of the situation and requested that I pass it along to your office.

Yours truly,

Pauline Carroll, Constituency Assistant Leonard Krog, MLA, Nanaimo 4-77 Victoria Crescent, Nanaimo, BC Telephone: 250-714-0630 / Fax 250-714-0859 /

Email: leonard.krog.mla@leg.bc.ca

www.leonardkrog-mla.ca/

From: s.22

Sent: August 25, 2017 3:09 PM

To: Krog.MLA, Leonard Eugene < Leonard.Krog.MLA@leg.bc.ca >

**Subject:** Newcastle Island Ferry

Please forward our concerns to the appropriate provincial ministry.

It's heartbreaking to see what appears to be a miss-managed service to Newcastle Island in Nanaimo provided by First Nations. They have the vessels but only one skipper to run the 35 passenger vessel. When he is unavailable, this vessel is not used. If at the end of the season they say the demand was not there, that is incorrect. We observed daily countless people walking away when they were advised the wait would be over an hour as only the 12 passenger vessel was running. If bikes and equipment was transported, the passenger count was even less.

Hopefully there's a solution to this sad situation.

---- Forwarded Message -----

From: s.22

To: ncimanager@p-d-g.ca <ncimanager@p-d-g.ca>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2017, 2:58:14 PM PDT

**Subject:** Newcastle Island Ferry

Three months later and the problem continues. This week on our daily waterfront walks we observed only the 12 seat vessel running and the Grey Selkie heading up Newcastle Channel at noon while passenger overloads waited over an hour at the dock. The ticket attendant indicated last week the skipper was ill so the Grey Selkie wasn't running at all. What's the excuse

this week? We did notice it was running today...thank goodness.

Why is there only one skipper for the Grey Selkie? You are losing hundreds of dollars a day and word of mouth by those having to wait over an hour to get to the island is not going to encourage others.

12 passengers x 2 trips per hour x \$5 = \$12035 passengers x 2 trips per hour x \$5 = \$350If bikes or equipment is transported, the revenue on the 12 passenger vessel is even less.

Calculating 6 hours of transporting to the island at capacity, you're losing \$1,380 a day (6 x \$230 per hour) which surely would pay for someone to become qualified to skipper the vessel.

So sad to see very disappointed residents and visitors...they won't be back! s.22

---- Forwarded Message -----

From: s.22

To: <a href="mailto:ncimanager@p-d-g.ca">ncimanager@p-d-g.ca</a> <a href="mailto:sent:3">sent: Sunday, May 28, 2017, 2:17:46 PM PDT</a>

Subject: Newcastle Island Ferry

It's good Snuneymuxw First Nations has the opportunity to run the Newcastle Island ferry but from our observations this weekend, you're turning away more passengers than you're carrying.

The Mar 2, 2017 article in the Nanaimo News Now publication shows a picture of the Grey Selkie and indicates 'SFN will use this boat for passenger ferry service between Nanaimo and Newcastle Island'. That's definitely not the vessel you've been using the past two weekends but is the one you need to be using. From observation past years, this vessel carried approximately 35 passengers plus room for several bikes and camping equipment and supplies. You're presently carrying 12 passengers max (10 when two bicycles were tucked inside) for a maximum of 24 per hour. For groups wishing to camp, there's no room for equipment and supplies and takes hours to transport everyone. For everyone taken to the island, they will experience long waits to return if they wait for the last few runs. At noon today we observed over 30 potential passengers walking away as they had over an hour wait with only the 12 passenger boat in service.

The service two years ago provided by the Victoria Harbour Ferry had become this bad as they were only running one 12 passenger pickle boat. Last year the service was greatly improved when the Protection Island ferry was providing frequent service with more vessels and greater capacity.

You must be running two vessels back and forth with one being the Grey Selkie to move more people. Word of mouth will sink your business in this town. People want to visit Newcastle Island, but if they have to wait hours to get there, they will go elsewhere and discourage others from taking the ferry.

I feel sorry for the poor employee who is having to advise potential customers of the long wait time...not good enough. s.22