

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Council agrees to move towards a lease to Island Ferries Services**

*Step will support fast passenger ferry*

#### **Summary**

Following discussions with Island Ferries Services Ltd., Council has agreed in principle to move forward with a land lease agreement allowing two ferry vessels space to collect passengers travelling between Nanaimo and Vancouver.

*Strategic Link:* The introduction of a passenger ferry service from downtown Nanaimo to Vancouver supports and promotes the economic health of Nanaimo while also improving the transportation network across the region.

#### **Key Points**

- The complete details of the agreement have not been finalized, however the location of the required dock - the City owned land known previously as the Gadd Marine site - has been identified.
- As part of the agreement, the City of Nanaimo will provide water and sewage services to the property.

#### **Quotes**

"This is an exciting announcement for the City of Nanaimo. The addition of a fast passenger ferry service from downtown Nanaimo to downtown Vancouver is a considerable step forward for our community's economy and its tourism sector. Over the next several weeks City staff will continue to work with representatives from IFS to finalize the details of this important lease agreement."

John Ruttan  
Mayor  
City of Nanaimo

"Island Ferries is pleased with City Council's decision. It is a significant positive step along the road to implementing passenger ferry service between Nanaimo and downtown Vancouver"

Dr. C. Stew Vinnels  
President & CEO  
Island Ferries Services Ltd.

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