



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 20060602
TEXT POSTED ON BC BID WEBSITE ON JUNE 2, 2006
BY THE BC FERRY COMMISSION**

The BC Ferry Commission (www.bcferrycommission.com) seeks a qualified consultant to provide an opinion on the adequacy of BC Ferries' search to date for a suitable replacement vessel for the Queen of the North which sank March 22 2006.

BACKGROUND

Following the sinking of the Queen of the North, BC Ferries has reported that it has considered some 100 vessels as a replacement, but that none were suitable. Consequently the company has reduced service to northern routes below the normal northern summer schedule which began May 18 2006.

After an application from BC Ferries, on May 17 2006 the Commission issued Order 06-02 authorizing a 60-day reduction in the normal summer service level on BC Ferries' northern routes, starting May 18 2006. Our Order may be extended beyond the 60 days (i.e. beyond July 17 2006) if we are satisfied that BC Ferries has carried out a thorough search for a suitable replacement vessel and remains unable to secure one.

ASSIGNMENT

Your task as a qualified consultant would be to provide an opinion on the adequacy of BC Ferries' search to date for a suitable replacement vessel for the period starting March 22 2006. If finding that BC Ferries' search has been thorough, and that a suitable replacement is unlikely to be available until after July 17 2006, you would provide a letter of comfort to that effect, with appropriate supporting material as you see fit, to the Commission. Your letter would include a recommended period for the extension. The Commission would expect to rely on your report in making its decision on whether an extension of Order 06-02 will be made and, if so, for how long.

BC Ferries records relating to the search for a vessel after March 22, 2006 will be made available and meetings can be arranged with members of BC Ferries' search team.

TIMING

The assignment is expected to start by June 19 2006 and its output would be submitted to the Commission by July 7 2006.

FEE

The consultant should quote a fee based on a maximum of 10 days' work. It is not essential but probably desirable to visit BC Ferries headquarters in Victoria, BC as part of the investigation.

Interested consultants should submit¹ a short summary of credentials and relevant experience by e-mail to the Commissioner by June 14, 2006 and including a brief time and cost budget

Martin Crilly
BC Ferry Commissioner
<http://www.bcferrycommission.com>

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Tel: (250) 339 2714
Fax: (250) 339 2753

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BC Ferry Commission
P.O. Box 1497
Comox
British Columbia
V9M 8A2

¹ for readers of this PDF file: this can be done directly to the Commission—it is not necessary to submit via the BC Bid web site