

For Immediate Release  
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## **SALISH ORCA TO CONDUCT SEA TRIALS AROUND BC FERRIES' FLEET** **Catch a glimpse of BC Ferries' newest vessel**

VICTORIA – BC Ferries' newest vessel, Salish Orca, will conduct a series of sea trials as part of operational training and to verify the interface with docks at many of BC Ferries' terminals as part of its commissioning process starting on Friday at Long Harbour on Salt Spring Island. The public can catch a glimpse of the new ship as it travels through the Salish Sea.

Over the next month, Salish Orca will conduct dock trials at ports in the Southern Gulf Islands, Sunshine Coast, Departure Bay, Duke Point, Horseshoe Bay and Swartz Bay. As part of BC Ferries' commissioning process for any new class of vessel, ships conduct dock trials at a variety of locations for potential future deployment purposes, corporate planning and contingency scenarios.

“We’ve heard from many customers eager to see Salish Orca, so we wanted to let the public know when the vessel would be visiting the various terminals,” said Mark Collins, BC Ferries' Vice President of Strategic Planning and Customer Engagement. “Passengers will be able to have a sneak peak of the ship from shore over the next four weeks, and we look forward to welcoming the public on board when we host official open houses.”

Dates/locations of dock trials will be posted on [Twitter @BCFerries](#) and on BC Ferries Projects page for New Salish Class Vessels on the website under Major Project Milestones 24 to 48 hours in advance at <http://www.bcferrys.com/about/intermediatevessel.html>.

Salish Orca will enter service on the Powell River – Comox route in the spring, replacing the Queen of Burnaby. Salish Eagle and Salish Raven will be brought into service for the Southern Gulf Islands later this year.

Under contract to the Province of British Columbia, BC Ferries is the service provider responsible for the delivery of safe, efficient and dependable ferry service along coastal British Columbia.

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