



September 14, 2026

Peter Lantin, Chair  
B.C. Ferry Authority

cc: BC Ferry Services Board  
BC Ferries CEO Nicolas Jimenez

Dear Mr. Lantin and members of the board,

BC Ferries is spending billions of dollars on new vessels. British Columbians deserve to know how those decisions are made and where that money is going.

The B.C. Ferry Authority's job is to oversee BC Ferries and make sure the corporation serves the public interest.

That should include considering B.C. jobs, Canadian materials, local suppliers, tax revenue and the future of our shipbuilding industry when purchasing ships.

Research commissioned by the Build Them Here coalition shows that building four major ferries in Canada could add about \$1.5 billion to Canada's economy. Most of that benefit would stay in B.C. It could also generate \$413 million in government revenue and create thousands of good jobs.

A Leger survey found that 81 per cent of B.C. residents want BC Ferries to release more information about the value of its contracts and how shipyards are selected. It also found that 84 per cent want the province to have a long-term plan to keep shipbuilding work and skills in B.C.

The public wants answers. Here are our questions:

1. How did you decide that building four ferries in China was in the public interest? Did your criteria account for the loss of jobs, tax revenue, economic stimulus to our GDP and supply chains?
2. Will you ask BC Ferries to explain how the shipyard was chosen and how the bids were compared?

3. When Canadian shipyards informed BC Ferries that the lack of Canadian content requirements made their bids unfeasible, what attempts were made to address their concerns?
4. Will BC Ferries release the full value of the contract and explain what's included in that cost?
5. Have you asked BC Ferries how building overseas will affect the cost and availability of replacement parts, the time needed for repairs and how long vessels might be kept out of service?
6. Have you met with B.C. shipyards, workers and suppliers since the contract was awarded? If not, will you?
7. What will BC Ferries change next time so Canadian shipyards have a fair chance to bid?
8. Will BC Ferries publish a long-term building schedule so our shipyards can prepare and compete for that work?
9. What is BC Ferries doing now to ensure its next ferries are built in B.C.?
10. Will you commit to building BC Ferries' next new ships in B.C.?

We have the workers and skills to build ferries. With a clear plan for steady work, we can build up the industry here. We're asking you to help make that happen.

We look forward to your answers.

Sincerely,

The Build Them Here Shipbuilding Coalition

