

3. What your FAC has done so far.xls

January 21	Thetis Island survey of Residents and Business re Impact of rising Ferry prices
January 31	Chemainus/Kuper/Thetis FAC met with BCF president to review BC Ferries submission to Commissioner

February	Study available documentation and reports
----------	---

March 6	Sent letter to Minister of Transportation, Kevin Falcon
---------	---

Questions included:

1. The Coastal Ferry Act only declares its intent to lower Service Fees and maintain financial viability of BC Ferries, not its intent to maintain a viable life on the coastal islands. The Commissioner does not monitor this balance. Our Profile shows that the uncertainty created is forcing some people to leave as increases continue. This trend will substantially change the diversity and vitality of our current communities. The Government has allowed this uncertainty to exist. Why?
2. Why does the Government allow inequities to exist between water versus asphalt highways, and coastal versus inland ferry services ... each one is an equally necessary means of transport to access Essential Services?
3. For some of us, there was no choice where our homes were to be located (i.e. on Kuper Island). Why do our costs for ferry access to our homes, and to Essential Services, keep increasing? In fact, one could ask why we pay at all?
4. Why do users today pay for the high level of Capital Improvement required to rectify the neglect of former governments, while the current government makes significant investments in the highway and transit systems throughout the province? Will these be User Pay as well?
5. Business and Leisure usage is predominant on the Major Routes and Essential Services usage is predominant on all Other Routes. Why is the opportunity to do value based pricing (rather than cost plus pricing) not taken advantage of on the Major Routes in order to support the Other Routes?

March 19	FAC Chairpersons met with Minister of Transportation and issued press release
----------	---

"Kevin Falcon agrees to give the ferry dependent communities a voice in setting PT2 service"

March 21	Response from Minister of Transportation to Joint submission from Chemainus/Kuper/Thetis FAC "Government's commitment is substantial ... taxpayers contribute more than \$117 million for Ferries operations and \$15 million for support to seniors, students, disabled residents, medical trips"
----------	---

April	Met with Chemainus Chamber of Commerce
April	Reviewed BC Ferry Commissioner's March 30, 2007 Proposal
April	FAC Chairpersons met with Commissioner
April	FAC Chairpersons met with Assistant Deputy Minister of Transportation

May 1	Thetis Island Community Education Update
-------	--