

For Immediate Release  
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### NEW INFORMATION CONTAINED IN QUEEN OF THE NORTH REPORT

VICTORIA – Based on new information received, BC Ferries' Divisional Inquiry Panel today released an addendum to their original report into the grounding and sinking of the Queen of the North.

The Panel was reconvened as a result of new information becoming available to the company following the publication of the original report on March 26, 2007. The new information contained in the addendum is as follows:

- *Two BC Ferries employees provided sworn statutory declarations that shortly following the grounding of the vessel, they heard the on-watch Quartermaster say, in the context of the sinking, that she was alone. The Divisional Inquiry Panel (with one dissent) finds these declarations to be credible. The Quartermaster has denied that she was left alone on the bridge and the Fourth Officer has refused to provide evidence to the Divisional Inquiry Panel regarding the period of approximately fourteen (14) minutes prior to the grounding.*
- *In addition, further analysis was done that verified that the impact marks on the shoreline of Gil Island were consistent with a straight line extension of a trackline through the last portion of Grenville Channel across Wright Sound directly to the impact marks.*

The new information does not change the original findings of the Divisional Inquiry that the Queen of the North deck watch failed to maintain a proper lookout by all available means.

The addendum and the full statutory declarations have been provided to the Transportation Safety Board (TSB).

BC Ferries is also appealing a ruling by the B.C. Supreme Court that it cannot release the Panel's analysis of the Queen of the North Electronic Chart System (ECS) data as part of the addendum. The court action was commenced as a result of the TSB's refusal to consent to BC Ferries referring to the ECS data in any published report, despite the ECS and the data from it being the property of BC Ferries.

BC Ferries is of the view that all information regarding this incident should be shared with the public on a timely basis.

A copy of the full addendum is available on BC Ferries website at [http://www.bcferrys.com/about/More\\_Information.html#more](http://www.bcferrys.com/about/More_Information.html#more)

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