



BC FERRY & MARINE WORKERS' UNION

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VIA Email

Hon. John Zerucelli
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
john.zerucelli@parl.gc.ca

May 21, 2025

Dear Secretary Zerucelli:

RE: CONGRATULATIONS AND PARTNERSHIP ON BEHALF OF BCFMWU

Congratulations on your appointment as Secretary of State for Labour. I'm writing on behalf of the BC Ferry & Marine Workers' Union (BCFMWU) to introduce our organization and highlight some federal labour issues that matter to our members.

We represent over 4,500 ferry workers across British Columbia, including workers at BC Ferries, Hullo Ferries, and other marine operators. Our members provide essential transportation services that keep coastal communities connected and our economy moving.

Ferry workers face a number of challenges that require federal attention. These include long hours and fatigue due to irregular schedules, limited opportunities for advancement for women and racialized workers and high costs and limited access to required marine certifications. In addition, gaps in federal labour standards for certain marine operations leave workers vulnerable, and current EI and pension systems often fail to meet the needs of those with seasonal or casual work patterns.

Across the sector, ferry workers help move millions of passengers and billions of dollars in goods every year. Their work is essential not only to B.C., but to Canada's overall transportation system.

We'd welcome the chance to meet with you and your team to talk more about how federal leadership can support fairness and opportunity in the marine sector.

Sincerely,
BC FERRY & MARINE WORKERS' UNION

Eric McNeely
Provincial President



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AFFILIATED WITH:

BC Federation of Labour

BC General Employees' Union

Canadian Labour Congress

National Union of Public & General Employees

International Transport Workers' Federation