



GOVERNMENT OF
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Department of Transportation and Works
Marine Services Division

To all ferries,
Captains, Mates, Engineers, Oilers, Purser Deck Hands, Steward Deck Hands, Wharfingers:
Bell Island ferry service.

From
B.A. Hammett, Capt.
Marine Manager
Eastern Region.

Tuesday 24th October 2006

Rules governing free and priority access to ferry - Bell Island ferry service.

For the guidance of whom the following may concern:

Only government vehicles,(GP licence plates), on active duty, with their required operating crew, can go on any ferry free of charge, but they do not have priority. They cannot displace a fee paying passenger. On occasion a request for priority may be made, which will be transmitted to the crew for each occurrence. (However if such a vehicle pays the correct fee, then it can board as a normal vehicle in it's lineup position).

(Note: Government vehicles carrying Road Salt, Commercial Fuel Oil Trucks carrying Home Heating Fuel for homes and businesses - from October 1 until April 30 yearly: will have priority access at both terminals, providing they arrive 15 minutes prior to departure).

Fuel trucks carrying fuel to service the ferries (year round priority).

Operational Police and Fire Brigade vehicles will also have priority access year round at both terminals and they will be regarded the same as the Ambulance for priority.

Town Council vehicles, (GM licence plates) also have free access to any ferry. Rules are as for GP licence plate vehicles. Again an occasional request may be made for priority.

Tuesdays will continue to have a dedicated Dangerous Goods round trip for gasoline and propane.

Mail van/car: this vehicle shall only have priority if and only when, the vehicle is carrying mail. Typically this is normally ONE trip, to the island in the morning and ONE return trip from the island at about 2 p.m.

Hearses will be given priority when carrying a deceased person.

Very ill patients who are pre-approved and travelling for or from medical treatment which have significant side effects (Kidney Dialysis for example) will be given priority at both terminals. These persons are, by and large, already well known.

Free transportation for ferry personnel.

Please note that personnel who have retired do not continue access to free ferry transportation. Please note also that ferry personnel who are no longer employed and or on lay-off status, also do not get free transportation beyond their one week off. Free transportation is available only to the employee, his/her spouse and the dependant child(ren) only. If a vehicle is utilized, then only one vehicle per ferry crossing per family.

The rule also states very clearly that all fee paying passengers are to be accommodated first, then (and only then) can free transportation be accessed by the employee and/or the family as stated above. This portion of the rule is (under normal circumstances) flexible due to the service enjoying two ferries running continuously.

But: it must be clearly understood that at no time can a person, claiming free access, jump ahead in the line-up and/or just drive onto the ferry ahead of others.

On the occasion(s) when only one ferry is operational, the free access restriction will apply, or the employee and/or the family pay **full** fare... (or wait for the next ferry with available space). Abuse of the above privileges will result in disciplinary action.

Senior citizens: we have had occasions in the past when a senior was unable to drive their own vehicle, had another (non senior person) drive them. Only the senior and the vehicle can access the senior rate, not the person driving them. The senior rate - or any other privilege mentioned above, is NOT transferable.

Senior rate is as of age 60.

Dependant children are up to the 18th birthday - unless registered with Memorial University or other learning institution **and** are living with their parents.

Yours truly,

B.A. Hammett.
Marine Manager.
Region 1

cc: Don Brennan, Regional Director
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