

Ministry of Transportation

Regional Director's Office
East Region
1355 John Counter
Boulevard
Kingston, Ontario K7L 5A3
Tel.: 647-638-5359
Fax: 613-547-1777

Ministère des Transports

Bureau du directeur régional
Opérations de l'est
1355 Boulevard John
Counter
Kingston, Ontario K7L 5A3
Tél.: 647-638-5359
Télééc.: 613-547-1777



November 22, 2024

Vanessa Latimer
Chief Administrative Officer
Township of Frontenac Islands
VLatimer@frontenacislands.ca

Dear Vanessa Latimer:

Thank you for taking the time to meet with the Ministry of Transportation on November 13 to continue our discussions on operational matters regarding the Wolfe Island ferry service. We appreciate the ongoing collaboration of township staff in exploring optimal solutions for some of the current issues of concern for the community.

As a result of community feedback that the timing of the evening layover can be problematic, the ministry has been considering how to best adjust it to minimize the impact on people's plans. We are open to moving the required layover to another time in the schedule as long as certain operational parameters can still be met. These include:

- ensuring the ferry is in Kingston for the 0700h and 1900h shift changes,
- allowing a minimum of one 40-minute layover period to allow for regular maintenance, fuelling and sewage discharge,
- providing for an 80-minute round trip, and
- dedicating the 0300h to 0500h timeslot to complete federally mandated drills and other maintenance that should be completed when the vessel is not in service.

Recognizing that individual circumstances and needs will vary, the ministry is seeking input from the township as to what layover time would best suit the community's preferences. We welcome your recommendation and thank you in advance for taking the time to consider it.

We also recognize the community's concern about the current 80-minute round trip schedule. This schedule is an interim measure while construction continues on the dock infrastructure. The Wolfe Islander IV was designed to operate on a more frequent schedule, and the current schedule will improve once the supporting infrastructure is in place. Once construction is complete, marine staff will be able to accurately assess and test service timing, and we will have the necessary information to commit to an updated schedule.

In the meantime, the ministry is working to accelerate construction. The ministry and our contractor are looking at all available options to complete this work as soon as possible.

I hope this information is helpful and thank you once again for the township's willingness to work with us as we take steps to improve the ferry service for Wolfe Islanders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Franca Sacchetti". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Franca Sacchetti
Regional Director, East Region

c:
Colin Simons, Director, Transportation User Services Branch