



**BOWEN ISLAND MARINA LTD**  
**RR#1 A-1**  
**Bowen Island, B.C.**  
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July 22, 2003

Mayor Lisa Barrett and Councillors  
Isabelle Hadford, Chief Administrative Officer

**RE: TRAFFIC MANGEMENT PLAN/SNUG COVE PLAN - GATEWAY TO BOWEN ISLAND CONCEPT**

Further to our letter dated August 8, 2002 regarding traffic flow in the area of the Municipal North Wharf, we have developed a more explicit concept for your consideration.

We have been coming to Bowen Island since the Union Steamships era. When we purchased our first property on Bowen in 1957 there were 250 permanent residences. As a family we purchased the Bowen Island Marina in 1985 and have been living here ever since. With this background in mind and because we have an opportunity to watch the ferry traffic on a daily bases we have drawn up a concept in an attempt to solve some of the long standing problems regarding pedestrian traffic between the ferry and Cardena Road.

We commend our first Municipal Council for initializing the final steps to a Snug Cove Plan. The present Council will no doubt see the completion of this long awaited plan but with one major omission. -The Traffic Plan. - Our concept addresses the pedestrian traffic between the north wharf and Cardena Road, and much more, for all Bowen Islanders and for visitors to the Island. This concept also gives a workable purpose to a strategic area that has been used only as a vehicle turn-around.

Our concept includes these important items:

A historical 'gateway' to Bowen Island.

Keep the historical use of the north wharf when it was known as the 'Daddy Dock'. (Waiting for daddy to come home.)

A historically designed building surrounded with benches, planters and flowers for people to come and enjoy the view.

This building would provide efficient loading and off-loading of ferry foot passengers. Thus, safely separating them from vehicle traffic.

Visitor Information - Possibly staffed by the Chamber of Commerce.

Historical Information -Possibly staffed by the B.I. Historians and by the B.I. Heritage Preservation Association

Washrooms in the building. Reducing the risk of vandalism.

Shopping area in the building. Bowen arts, crafts, etc.

A covered walkway for passengers.

A bus and taxi stop.

Handicapped and short term parking for the ferry and for the shops.

A people place. A place to wave to people coming from or going on the ferry. To sit on the benches and enjoy the view of the Cove and Howe Sound. Browse in the shops.

A source of revenue for the Municipality.

## AT PRESENT

The following are our observations.

There are two types of people who come to Bowen Island. Residents (commuters) and visitors.

### Morning commuters. 5:00 a.m.9:30 a.m. **Safety Issue for Business people and school children.**

Business people walk down to the terminal using the narrow south side sidewalk or squeezing along the lock block wall if the ferry is unloading.

NOTE: It was much safer and caused less congestion when the transit bus was located on the north wharf.

There are a growing number of high school students going off Island to school each year. The school buses presently park on Cardena Road. The children walk en mass from the busses along-side the lock block wall, sometimes squeezing against the wall as the vehicles are unloading from the ferry.

They all gather together at the terminal waiting for the ferry to unload. It is not uncommon to see someone going in front of the traffic to see a friend on the other side of the road.

NOTE: It would be much safer to unload the children closer to the ferry.

### Return commuters. 4:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.

Commuters returning home must intermingle with visitors, most of the commuters are aiming for the transit busses on Cardena Road. Usually there are too many people using the narrow south-side sidewalk so they spill onto the road or even snug up to the lock block wall. This delays the off loading of ferry vehicles.

NOTE: It was much safer and less congested when the transit busses were parked on the wooden wharf.

The school children generally walk up the middle or north side of Trunk Road to the buses waiting on the Cardena Road causing a dangerous situation if the vehicles start to off load the ferry.

### Visitor and Tourists

First time visitors to the Island are immediately confronted with two confusing issues that slows down ferry unloading:

Foot passengers stop on the road allowance to look for directions or for information

Vehicles slowing down to avoid foot passenger congestion while looking for signage or directions.

The North Wooden Wharf is over-due for major repairs. This structure has been used for vehicle turn-around/passenger drop-off area for many years. Its 'table top' construction was not meant for such daily abuse, in fact, the Dept. of Transport actually shut it off to vehicle traffic in 1989, deeming it unsafe for that purpose.

In order to obtain monies that the Dept of Transport allocated for repairs of both the south and north wharves in the Dock Divestiture Agreement, work must begin next year. Once the repairs are completed, what is this structure going to be used for? What revenue could be generated from this wooden structure to help pay for the upkeep in the future? What best and highest use could this area be used for?

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Create a workable space by joining the Municipal Wharf to the Lock Block Fill of the Bowen Island Marina. This now gives a good size permanent area to work with. This would not only satisfy B.C. Ferries concern about building an off loading ramp on a solid structure but it would be ideal for a fairly large, multi-use permanent building for ferry passengers.

See our concept plan for more ideas.

NOTE: Once the passengers have left the building at ground level, a safer, wider pedestrian walkway could be created easily. A wider walkway could be accomplished by first removing the lock blocks and replacing them on the Municipal road allowance, gaining almost 12 feet. A safe covered pedestrian walkway could then be constructed.

Not too long ago we attended a meeting with the Captain of the Queen of Capilano. He told us that from the bridge of the ship he could not see over the little hill in the road down to the area of the Cenotaph. Therefore we suggest that this hill be removed.

Other improvements could take place in the same area. Services could be put underground. The unsightly ferry washrooms could now be removed as well as the inadequate ferry waiting structure and the south-side sidewalk could be widened. All these improvements in this short stretch of road would make such a difference both for safety sake and to greatly improve the entrance to the Island.

Every Bowen Islander could be proud of this area. Now the visiting boater arriving from the Municipal Wharf would finally have a pleasant area to walk through. A beautiful "Gateway to Bowen Island".

Thank you for taking the time to read our Bowen Island Gateway Concept. We would be happy to talk about with you.

Yours truly,

Norma & Dennis Dallas  
Co-owners

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