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Queen of Burnaby will cover Route 9

According to BC Ferries, the *Queen of Nanaimo* will go for refit from mid-October to mid-December, and the *Queen of Burnaby*, a near-sistership, will be assigned to Route 9 during that period. (Route 9 is the regular run from Tsawwassen to the Southern Gulf Islands.)

The *Queen of Burnaby* usually operates the Powell River–Comox run. While it is away, that route will be covered by the *Queen of Chilliwack*.

The *Queen of Nanaimo* recently collided with Village Bay's Berth 1 when it failed to be able to shift into reverse as it approached the dock. That incident is still under investigation; the vessel was back in service in three days and the dock in a little over a week.

The *Queen of Nanaimo* was built in Victoria in 1964; the *Queen of Burnaby*, in 1965.

In other ferry news, a plan to create space allocations by Island on the late morning ferry from the Southern Gulf Islands to Victoria appears to have been abandoned following a negative reaction from Islanders on Mayne and Saturna. The ferry regularly overloads at Otter Bay, Pender Island (see also Saturna Notes, page 8.)

BC Ferries note that in its first financial quarter, April to June 2010, vehicle traffic was 1.6% less than last year, and passenger traffic was 1.2% less. Net earnings were near breakeven, \$0.9 million compared to a loss of \$3.6 million in the same period in 2009. ☞

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