



VERDICT AT CORONER'S INQUEST

File No.: 2007:302:0008

An Inquest was held at Sechelt Courthouse, in the municipality of Sechelt

in the Province of British Columbia, on the following dates August 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 2008

before Tom Pawlowski, Presiding Coroner,

into the death of DIXON MERRILL 51 Male Female (Last Name, First Name) (Age)

and the following findings were made:

Date and Time of Death: March 21, 2007 at approximately 2300 hours

Place of Death: Princess Royal Reach, Jervis Inlet near Sechelt, British Columbia (Location) (Municipality/Province)

Medical Cause of Death

(1) Immediate Cause of Death: a) Severed Brain Stem Dislocation

DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF

Antecedent Cause if any: b) Blunt Force Injury due to Rapid Deceleration

DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF

Giving rise to the immediate cause (a) above, stating underlying cause last: c) Sudden Impact with Shoreline

(2) Other Significant Conditions Contributing to Death: Speed, alcohol impairment, restricted visibility

Classification of Death: Accidental Homicide Natural Suicide Undetermined

The above verdict certified by the Jury on the 15th day of August AD, 2007.

Tom Pawlowski

Presiding Coroner's Printed Name

Original signed by Tom Pawlowski

Presiding Coroner's Signature



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FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS A RESULT OF THE INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF

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DIXON

SURNAME

MERRILL BRADY

GIVEN NAMES

Pursuant to Section 38 of the Coroner's Act, the following recommendations are forwarded to the Chief Coroner of the Province of British Columbia for distribution to the appropriate agency:

JURY RECOMMENDATIONS:

To: Jim Lawson
Director, Marine Safety
Transport Canada
Pacific Region
620 - 800 Burrard Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2J8

1. It is recommended that Transport Canada make improvements to communications in coastal inlets.
2. It is recommended that Transport Canada require all commercial passenger carrying vessels to be equipped with Electronic Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB).

To: Tanner Elton, CEO/ Executive Officer
B.C. Forest Safety Council
Suite 200 - 1055 West Hastings St.
Vancouver, BC V6E 2E9

3. It is recommended that the BC Forest Safety Council be empowered to ensure formal training for all commercial boat operators as per Transport Canada regulations.
4. It is recommended that the BC Forest Safety Council ensure that crew transportation on land and water be included in SAFE Companies audits.

To: Roslyn Kunin, Chair
Workers' Compensation Board of British Columbia (WorkSafeBC)
PO Box 5350 Stn Terminal
Vancouver, BC V6B 5L5



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5. It is recommended that the Workers' Compensation Board ensure compliance with Transport Canada regulations requiring Small Vessel Operator Proficiency (SVOP) certificate.
6. It is recommended that all Forest Licence holders ensure that all contractors operating on their land and facilities be properly trained and licensed if operating commercial vessels for work or crew transport.
7. It is recommended that the Workers' Compensation Board require employers to ensure that their employees who use VHF radios be certified under the Transport Canada Restricted Operator Certificate (ROC).

To: Band Council
Sechelt Indian Band
Box 740
Sechelt, B.C. V0N 3A0

8. It is recommended that the Sechelt Indian Band publish a regular bulletin advertising training courses and funding available.