



Black Ball Ferry Line provides the only daily, year-round vehicle and passenger ferry service between downtown Victoria, British Columbia and Washington State. Nearing its 60th year of service, the company operates the *MV COHO*, which flies the Black Ball flag—a storied, U.S. maritime marker celebrating its 200th anniversary in 2018.

The *MV COHO* was commissioned in 1959 by Black Ball Ferry Line’s original owners, Robert and Lois Acheson. After Robert’s death in 1963, Lois Acheson managed the company until her passing in 2004. The entirety of her estate—including the company and the *MV COHO*—was left in-trust to the Oregon State University Foundation. In 2012, Black Ball Ferry Line was purchased by five maritime professionals, most of whom had previous experience working with or on the *MV COHO*.

With an unparalleled record of reliability, the *MV COHO* has transported over 23 million passengers and 7 million vehicles since it began operating in 1959. In peak season, Black Ball Ferry Line employs over 100 people.

Black Ball Ferry Line’s administrative offices are located in Seattle, with terminals and operations personnel at Victoria’s Inner Harbour and Port Angeles.

The company’s owners and executive management include:

Captain John “Jack” Cox

Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, & Co-Owner

Captain John “Jack” Cox has more than 55 years experience in the shipping business, including port and terminal operations as well as management of ferries, research vessels, and cruise ships. In addition to being a co-owner of Black Ball Ferry Line, he serves as the company’s Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

During his long career, Cox has pioneered new cruise and ferry ports throughout North America and has been involved in various consulting assignments that have taken him around the globe. In 2008, Cox was appointed by the Washington State’s Governor to serve as a Maritime Division Commissioner on the State of Washington Public Employment Relations Commission. Other positions of note have included Secretary and Director of Los Angeles Cruise Ship Terminals, Inc. and President of the North West Cruise Ship Association, which is based out of Vancouver, B.C.

Ryan Burles

President, Chief Operating Officer, & Co-Owner

Ryan Burles is President and Chief Operating Officer of Black Ball Ferry Line. His career with the company spans more than 25 years and touches all areas of its operation.

Burles joined Black Ball Ferry Line in 1981, working on the dock as a part-time Traffic Director while completing his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education at the University of Victoria. After graduation, he joined the company's Victoria management team as Assistant District Manager. Twelve years later, Burles was appointed District Manager with responsibility for overseeing operations at its Victoria terminal. In 2004, he was named Vice President, before being promoted to his current position in 2007.

During his tenure with Black Ball Ferry Line, Burles has helped guide the company through the successful expansion of fleet services, including enhancements to onboard amenities such as the addition of a passenger sundeck and viewing area, an expanded café and gift shop, and upgrades to the ship's propulsion system.

David Booth

Chief Financial Officer & Co-Owner

David Booth started with Black Ball Ferry Line in September 1995. His experience prior to that was in banking, accounting, and education.

As CFO, Booth manages the financial, IT and, administrative aspects of the company. Some of his projects include computerization of operations (the head office in 1996, the Port Angeles and Victoria offices shortly thereafter), telephone system upgrades (first in 1998, most recently a VOIP upgrade in 2018), the introduction of credit card processing (2003), online reservations (first introduced in 2005, most recently upgraded in 2013), an electronic Point of Sale system (2015), and the financial arrangements for the recent rebuilding of Black Ball's docks in Port Angeles (2012) and Victoria (2016).

Booth works in Black Ball's administrative office near Seattle's Fishermen's Terminal.

Ryan Malane

Vice President of Marketing & Co-Owner

Vice-President of Marketing Ryan Malane has spent the past 20 years in senior marketing roles with some of the Pacific Northwest's leading companies in the maritime, tourism, and advertising sectors.

Prior to his tenure at Black Ball Ferry Line, he managed the PR and advertising efforts of Crowley Maritime, a global marine transportation and logistics company, and was a group director for ad agency J. Walter Thompson's Imagio division. He is currently

Secretary/Treasurer of the Clallam County EDC and serves on the board of Attractions Victoria as well as several other community organizations.

Malane holds a master's degree in Communications and Leadership Studies from Gonzaga University and a bachelor's degree in Communications from the University of Washington.

Rian Anderson

VP Terminal Operations & Co-Owner

Since he joined the company in 1994, Rian Anderson has held a variety of positions for Black Ball Ferry Line. He currently serves as the company's VP Terminal Operations.

While earning a degree from the University of Washington, Anderson joined the company as a seasonal dockhand and, in 2002, accepted a full-time position as Purser on board the *MV COHO*. Since 2007, Anderson has been the manager of the Port Angeles terminal facility and has taken on such projects as the planning of a new on-board duty free shop and replacement of a critical 30,000 square foot pier.