

# WOODWARD GROUP OF COMPANIES

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Woodward's Oil Limited  
Woodward's Limited  
Coastal Shipping Limited  
Labrador Marine Inc.  
Woodward Aviation Services

Labrador Motors Limited – Goose Bay  
Labrador Motors Limited – Labrador City  
Woodward Motors Limited – Bay Roberts  
Woodward Motors Limited – St. Anthony  
Woodward Motors Limited – Port Aux Basques

Woodward Auto Sales  
Long Pond Terminals  
Labrador Sportfish Limited  
Markland Realty Limited  
Happy Goose Car Wash Ltd.

**For immediate release**  
**December 20, 2022**

## **RECORDS SET ON STRAIT OF BELLE ISLE FERRY SERVICE DURING COME HOME YEAR** ***More than 100,000 passengers and nearly 42,000 vehicles make crossing in 2022***

**(Happy Valley-Goose Bay)** – Labrador Marine Inc. (LMI), operator of the *Qajaq W* on the Strait of Belle Isle ferry service, stated today that record numbers of passengers and vehicles were transported in 2022. By December 18, 100,619 passengers and 41,806 vehicles had made the crossing.

“The *Qajaq W*, with space for 399 passengers, 120 passenger vehicles, and 8 tractor trailers, has become the trusted gateway for people travelling year-round to and from Labrador,” says LMI General Manager Captain Austin Daley. “It’s been almost four years since the *Qajaq W* entered service, and apart from the impact of COVID-related travel restrictions in 2020, we have served an increasing number of travellers.”

To December 18, LMI transported 11,561 more passengers than during the same period in 2021, and an additional 981 vehicles. 172 tour buses made the crossing in 2022, 23 more than the year before. Commercial traffic was down slightly in 2022.

### **COMPARISON WITH 2021**

	Jan. 1 – Dec. 18 2022	Jan. 1 – Dec. 18 2021	Variance from 2021
Passengers	100,619	89,058	+11,561
Passenger Vehicles	41,806	40,825	+ 981
Commercial Traffic	6,446	6,628	-182
Tour Buses	172	149	+23

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“Paving of the Trans-Labrador Highway has been completed, making it easier for people to travel,” says Daley. “Tourism has rebounded and that’s something we saw this year with general tourist travel and the continued increase in the number of tour buses. We also saw the end of COVID-related travel restrictions in 2022. Combined with the year being designated as Come Home Year, all of these factors helped drive traffic across the Straits.”

## WINTER SCHEDULE TAKES EFFECT JANUARY 8

With January approaching, the Qajaq W will resume its winter schedule. The schedule will change on January 8 and revert to spring service on May 1.

STRAIT OF BELLE ISLE WINTER SCHEDULE	DAILY - JANUARY 8 TO APRIL 30
Depart St. Barbe	8:00 AM*
Depart Blanc Sablon	10:30 AM*

*\*All times are Newfoundland Standard Time*

Travellers are advised to monitor the Labrador Marine website for the latest travel information at [www.labradormarine.com](http://www.labradormarine.com) and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador travel information website at [511nl.ca](http://511nl.ca).

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