

Ordinances of the Lieutenant Governor and Council of His Majesty's Province of Cape Breton passed in the year 1809. National Archives of the United Kingdom CO 219/2.

49 George III – Chapter 2

An Ordinance to Authorize and Empower the Justices of the Peace in the different Districts of the Island in their Sessions to Establish Ferries and fix the Rates of Ferriage

[Whereas it] is necessary for the Accommodation of the Inhabitants living in the South and South East parts of the Island and for the Conveniency of Travellers to and from the different sea Ports of Louisburgh [Louisbourg], Mainadieu [Main-à-Dieu] &c That a Ferry as soon as possible be Established at the River Mira where the road leading from Sydney to Louisburgh and Mainadieu Crosses said River, And as it may be found necessary hereafter to establish Ferries in different parts of this Island.

Be it Ordained and ordered by His Honor Brigadier General Nicholas Nepean President of His Majesty's Council by and with the Advice and Consent of said Council And it is hereby Ordained and Ordered by the Authority of the same. That from and Immediately after the Publication hereof the Justices of the Peace in their General or Quarter Sessions in the different Settlements within this Island on Application being made to them by the Major part of the Inhabitants of such place or places where it may be deemed necessary to Establish a Ferry or Ferries at any place within their District for the general benefit of the Inhabitants and travellers although no such Application shall have been made. The said Justices in their respective Sessions are hereby Authorized and Empowered to Establish a Ferry or Ferries at such place or places according to their best Skill and Judgement for this Public good and to fix the different rates of Ferriage for either Horse Cattle Sheep Hoggs [Hogs] &ce and the same from time to time there after and amend as they shall see Just provided always that if it shall Appear to the said Justices that the Income arising from the Ferriage will not be sufficient to defray the Expencc of a Boat and Support a Ferryman In that Case the said Justices are hereby Required to Cause an [illegible word] to be made of the necessary Expencc that will attend such a Ferry in providing a Boat and allowing a Salary to a Man to attend the same. And to transmit the said [illegible word] to the Commissioners of the Public Revenue to be by them laid before the Lieutenant Governor, president of Council, the Commander in Chief for the time being for his Consideration and Determination. And if the Lieutenant Governor President of Council, or Commander in Chief for the times shall Approve and Consent to said Estimate, the Commissioners are hereby Authorised and Empowered to direct the said Justices to agree with any Person that may be able and willing to take Charge of any Ferry Established by them and to perform the Duty of a Ferryman, and to Keep the Boat in proper Repair at his own Expencc. The said Justices taking proper Security for the due performance of the same. The sum so allowed to be paid out of the Public Revenue by Warrant from the Lieutenant Governor President of Council or Commander in Chief for the time being.

And Be it further Ordained and Ordered by the Authority Aforesaid That where a Boat found at the Public Expencc. The Ferry Man to be allowed half the Established Rates for ferriage of any of His Majesty's Troops or Baggage.

Approved Ordained and Ordered in Council the 20th October 1809.

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N. Nepean