

# Great Lakes Division The Company of Master Mariners of Canada

Tuesday September 22, 2020

1900 hrs.

# **Agenda (Business Meeting)**

- 1. Opening and Welcome**
- 2. Minutes of August 25, 2020 – Review and Approval**
- 3. Follow Up from Meeting of August 25, 2020**
- 4. Financial Report (Treasurer)**
- 6. Membership Report (Secretary)**
- 7. Upcoming National AGM Sept. 26, 2020 via ZOOM**
- 8. Industry Update Report**
- 9. Any Other Business**
- 10. Scheduling of Next Meeting**

# **Minutes of Great Lakes CMM Divisional Meeting**

**August 25, 2020**

**Review and Approval**

# **Financial Report**

**Treasurer**

# **Secretary's Report including Membership**

**Secretary**

# **Business Arising and Follow Up Items from Meeting of August 25, 2020**

- **Banking Authorization**
- **Proxy and In Person Attendance/Voting at National AGM**

# **Update re National AGM Meeting Sept. 26, 2020 1500 hrs (Halifax) via ZOOM**

## **AGENDA**

- **1. Welcome and Call to Order by Captain Christopher Hall, President**
- **2. Acceptance of the minutes of the 52nd Annual General Meeting.**
- **3. Business arising from the minutes.**
- **4. Reports from Officers and Divisions including Divisional financial statements**
- **5. Slate of Board Members for 2020/2021**
- **Proposal and Election of Board of Directors for 2020/2021**
- **6. Auditor's report.**
- **7. Appointment of the Auditor for 2020/2021**
- **8. Other business.**
- **9. Date and place of the 54th  
Annual General Meeting.**
- **10. Closure.**

# **Industry News Update**

**September 2020**

# Blount Cruise Lines Ceasing Great Lakes Cruises

**Blount Small Ship Adventures confirmed on August 25 that it is ceasing operations, including Great Lakes tours, effective immediately as a result of the ongoing global health crisis.**

**On August 12, a post showed the three Blount vessels – Grande Mariner, Grande Caribe and Niagara Prince – as being "currently for sale by owner in Warren, Rhode Island."**



# Transport Canada Ship Safety Bulletin re Marine Medicals (SSB 20-2020)

- **Domestic trading vessels (non STCW) further extension of marine medical expiry dates for further 6 months for any certificate expiring before Sept. 30, 2020 (last extension).**
- **STCW foreign trading vessels no extensions and any certificate expiring after September 1, 2020 must have a marine medical certificate renewed to work with a STCW Certificate of Competency.**



**McKeil Marine purchases new ship...four cargo holds, 152 metres by 22 metres, with a deadweight of 16,737 metric tonnes. Maltese flagged and is in dry-dock in Europe, preparing for her delivery to Canada. To be renamed the Harvest Spirit.**



Historic Dispatch for Soo Locks – prior to VHF  
Dispatch and Soo Control, lockages  
determined by series of lights (4 lights 4 locks)



# Great Lakes/ Seaway Traffic

- **Grain Exports leading seaway traffic with Canadian grain up 13%.**
- **Wheat and Canola strongest products.**
- **Lower ocean shipping rates makes Canadian and U. S. grain attractive internationally.**
- **Pandemic impact of food supply changes.**
- **Shipments of fertilizer are beginning to rise along with road salt and general cargo.**
- **Example of Port Windsor, one of Southwestern Ontario's key ports, grain shipments are up 18.9 per cent. Overall, tonnage is down 4.6 per cent year-to-date at Port Windsor, clobbered by a 68 per cent drop off in steel shipments. July 2020, however, was up 7.7 per cent from July 2019.**

# Great Lakes/ Seaway Traffic Results August 2020



## SEAWAY MONTHLY TRAFFIC RESULTS August 2020

Traffic (in thousands of tonnes)	SLSMC - Combined Traffic			
	Year to Date		Change from 2019	
	2019	2020	Tonnes	%
<b>Total Cargo</b>	21 059	19 289	-1 770	-8.40%
<b>All Grain</b>	5 247	5 947	699	13.33%
<b>Iron Ore</b>	4 420	3 397	-1 023	-23.15%
<b>Coal</b>	1 251	1 121	-130	-10.41%
<b>Dry Bulk</b>	6 157	5 459	-698	-11.34%
<b>Liquid Bulk</b>	2 645	2 047	-598	-22.62%
<b>General Cargo</b>	1 303	1 294	-8	-0.65%

  

Vessel Transits	2019	2020	Transits	%
<b>Total Transits</b>	2 301	1 996	-305	-13.26%

# New Algoma Self Unloader - Croatia



# U. S. Coast Guard Regulatory Changes – Dry Cargo Residue

- End of Reporting for Bulk Dry Cargo Residue Discharges into U.S. waters of the Great Lakes
- Vessel owners and operators are no longer required to submit Reporting for Bulk Dry Cargo Residue Discharges into U.S. waters of the Great Lakes (quarterly reporting and use of official Form CG-33).

Recordkeeping on board is still required, but vessel owners and operators may use their own forms. The Coast Guard no longer maintains its official Form CG-33 and has removed it from the CG-OES website.

# **Niagara Ports strategy aims to bring the world to Welland, Port Colborne and Thorold**

- **9/16 - Welland, ON – Three multimodal industrial hubs along the Welland Canal could have national and international business implications and opportunities for Welland, says Mayor Frank Campion.**
- **Last week, Niagara Centre MP Vance Badawey said he worked with mayors of Port Colborne, Welland and Thorold and the Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority to advance the development of the hubs along the 43-kilometre-long, eight-lock canal. Badawey is the chair of the federal standing committee on transport, infrastructure and communities.**
- **In a release, he said the initiative is a positive and practical solution to a long-held belief that many of the region’s marine assets are underutilized, and could be leveraged for positive economic impact, job creation and trade facilitation.**
- **“The idea of establishing Niagara as an active trade corridor is a notion that I took to Ottawa with me when I was first elected in 2015. Now, after years of working together with all our partners, the transport committee’s 2019 study on the subject seems to be gaining traction.”**

# Port of Thunder Bay Update –

Grain shipments so far in 2020 are up 27 per cent over 2019. The port is headed for its best year in decades, as another strong grain harvest is expected on the prairies and will begin to ship this fall. "Our year-end projections are narrowing in on the 10-million tonne mark," Tim Heney stated. "That volume hasn't been handled in Thunder Bay in a single year since 1997."



# Port of Thunder Bay – Heddle Dry Dock Photo



# **Lake Michigan/Lake Huron sets record high water level for eighth month in a row**

- **9/16 - August Great Lakes water level data is out, and Lakes Michigan and Huron again set a record water level. The August Great Lakes water levels forecast also has some encouraging news for those threatened by high water.**
- **In August, the only Great Lakes to be officially at monthly record water levels were Lake Michigan and Lake Huron. Lake St. Clair, while not a Great Lake, was also at an August monthly water level.**

# Tug Penninsula Future in Question as Historical Ship



**Town of Marathon on Lake Superior has declared their historic museum tug to be sold for scrap. Tug was used to tow rafts of timber on Lake Superior for decades, then used as a Harbour Tug in the Port of Thunder Bay. (comment: we continue to lose our marine heritage ships – Norisle, Norgoma, Keewatin and now Penninsula all with questionable futures!**

# USCG Casualty Report – Enbridge Pipeline Anchor Strike

- **9/14 - Less than three weeks before a barge's 12,000-pound anchor was dragged across Line 5, the barge and its newly installed anchor brake system were inspected by the U.S. Coast Guard and the American Bureau of Shipping. Both inspections on March 12 and March 18, 2018, found the system to be satisfactory.**
- **But on April 1, 2018, the improper installment of the anchor brake pad, the unexplained disengagement of two backup brakes, a series of communication errors and icy, rough waters caused the starboard anchor to pay out over the Straits of Mackinac, where it was dragged over dual oil pipeline and severed three transmission cables, according to a U.S. Coast Guard report.**
- **The severing of the American Transmission Co. cables beneath the Straits released about 800 gallons of dielectric fluid from the cables after the anchor gouged Enbridge's Line 5 in the midst of a heated, years-long debate over the pipeline's safety. The state has since decided to encase Line 5 in a tunnel beneath the Straits, but the continued operation of the pipeline remains a subject of litigation between the Canadian oil giant and the state of Michigan.**
- **The dielectric fluid spill was considered "minor" by the Coast Guard. Neither PCBs nor benzene compounds were found in the fluid, and no sheen was ever observed on the water's surface.**
- **The report also noted U.S. Coast Guard rules do not require ships to install alarms to alert them when an anchor inadvertently drops from a ship, though one was installed on the Erie Trader after the incident**

# National CMAAC

- **Preparations are underway for the virtual fall 2020 National CMAAC meeting, which will take place on November 2, November 6, November 9-10, November 12-13 and November 16-17.**
- **Due to operational requirements brought forward by COVID-19, compounded with physical distancing considerations, we've decided to change the traditional CMAAC format and instead host staggered virtual consultation sessions over 8 days. With this approach, we'll be able to deliver information in a manner suitable to our current context, at a time when "reimagining regulation and consultation" is required.**

- **Any Other Business**

- **Next Meeting**

- **Adjournment**