



The Foghorn

Newsletter of the Maritimes Division of the
Company of Master Mariners of Canada
www.mastermariners.ca



February 2021

From the Master Captain Marshall Dunbar

Good Day Everyone,

Here we go into the second month of 2021 and seems like more questions than answers on where we are with vaccines and seafarers. There is no doubt that seafarers are essential service workers and we need them to receive the vaccine in a timely fashion. This would allow them to travel with confidence, know that they would not spread COVID on their ship, which really is a captive crowd. They would know that their families and all they have contact with, remain safe. Additionally they do not need to isolate when they travel home, which in essence extends their rotation.

I have reached out to Dr. John Ross, Medical Director from PRAXES Medical Group, and they are waiting on how the Province of Nova Scotia will be addressing the vaccine roll out. As health care is a provincial concern, may I suggest that all members reach out to their own MLA and enquire on this matter as we may be able to support our seafarers by applying pressure locally on our elected officials.

If you are interested, your MLA contacts details can be found:

<https://nslegislature.ca/members/profiles>

The above addresses active seafarers and there are many MMC members, who on a daily basis, are onboard ships and are essential service employees. They need to be considered as persons who need to be prioritized for vaccines. It has to be stated, that in no way should we line jump health care workers, seniors and others who have underlying health issues.

Moving along, the Views and Positions Committee, chaired by Captain Chris Connor will be soon presenting two positions (Crew repatriation during the pandemic and crew shortages). There has been good work done by the committee and both of the positions are very timely.

One item that I again want to remind our members is the Professional Development Program. Captain Jim Calvesbert is the Chair Education and Professional Development Committee and our local Secretary. Please review the program and its requirements, I

believe so many of us can obtain this recognition.

Last item is from the NSCC:

NSCC's Nautical Institute Career Fair & Skills Competition is going online and you're invited!

March 4th and 5th, 2021

Engage with cadets by:

- Presenting your company followed by Q & A session (*Microsoft Teams 10-minute presentation and 15-minute Q&A*)
- Judging cadets competing in our new pre-recorded Marine Skills Competition (*Judging video submissions via email*)
- Becoming an event sponsor (*Sponsorship package to follow*)

Get involved - RSVP to Emily.Hartley@nsc.ca by February 1st, 2021.

Many thanks to all who continue to support our seafarer's, join the conversation by attending a MMC meeting, be safe and safe sailing.

Marshall



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Meeting

February 10th, 2021 beginning at 1900 ADT by ZOOM with instructions to be sent later. Guest speaker is Joseph Loot, Assistant Manager of the Halifax Mission to Seafarers. The subject of his presentation will be around the current situation that seafarers are encountering regarding repatriation and fair treatment.



The Newest Canadian Coast Guard Ship

Our Treasurer, Captain Greg Wilkie, is the Commanding Officer on the delivery voyage of CCGS John Cabot (2nd ship of that name) from



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the builders yard in British Columbia to St. John's NL.



Annual Dues Renewal Time

As everyone is aware, our annual dues run from January 1st to December 31st and they remain the same as last year. Full membership is \$300 and Retired is @150 and cadet membership is \$20.

E-transfer is the easiest method and can be sent directly to our Treasurer, Capt. Wilkie at wilkieg@gmail.com. The bank account is set up to automatically deposit transfers, so that there is no requirement for a "secret password".



The Foghorn – Editor Required Capt. Jim Calvesbert

Following Capt. Tom Kearsey, I have been the editor of The Foghorn since 2014 and after 7 years I think that it is time for someone to take on this activity with a new approach.

The task involves the gathering of information from the Master, Secretary, and Treasurer as well as other sources and compilation of the material in a suitable format for distribution to the members.

The time involved is approximately 2-3 hours per month and I will be happy to provide whatever assistance is necessary to arrange a suitable transfer of responsibilities.

Please contact me jim.calvesbert@gmail.ca or 902-440-2034 if you are interested.



We're taking NSCC's Nautical Institute Career Fair & Skills Competition online and you're invited!

Just to reiterate what Capt. Dunbar stated in his opening, I would remind you that the deadline for offering to assist is TODAY.

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Master Mariners of Canada Professional Development Program

Capt. Jim Calvesbert,
Chair, Education & Professional Development Committee

With the rapid pace of innovation and development in the maritime industry, and the need to operate at the current level of knowledge and expertise, the Company of Master Mariners of Canada has created a professional development program for its Members, both at sea and ashore.

Your Certificate of Competence, as we are all aware, is just the start of not only our career, but also of our learning path. As the industry progresses, new challenges arise, and new professional requirements are added and the journey of "life-long learning" leads us down the path of continuous learning and professional development.

We have defined two categories of recognition as follows:

- Practicing Maritime Professional – Three (3) months full time employment in maritime industry in past 12 months AND 20 professional development credits.
 - Non-Practicing Maritime Professional – 20 professional development credits
- You will be surprised at how quickly these qualifying credits accumulate.

I'm a Professional Working Seafarer – What Will This Do for Me?

As mentioned, your CofC is just the beginning. Our PD Program can help to prepare you for additional learning. It will provide credibility to peers, your employer, and Transport Canada that you are maintaining currency in the industry. Your crew depends upon you to assist with their learning through mentoring which will be greatly aided by your demonstration of

continued learning and the knowledge that you gain.

I'm Retired – What Are the Benefits To Me?

Seafaring is a fast-changing industry and keeping track of the changes can be a daunting task. As an experienced retired seafarer, your skills and learning can be of benefit to cadets and new officers through mentoring. There is a great satisfaction in staying current and helping the upcoming new officers in a profession which has provided us with some wonderful experiences.

Where Can I Get More Information?

The PD Program is on our website at <https://mastermariners.ca/cpd> . Contact your Divisional Master or Secretary for clarification.

F.W.E. for this edition

Capt. Jim Calvesbert, Editor