Results of Canada's OCEANS PROTECTION PLAN

EAST COAST

Marine shipping is safer

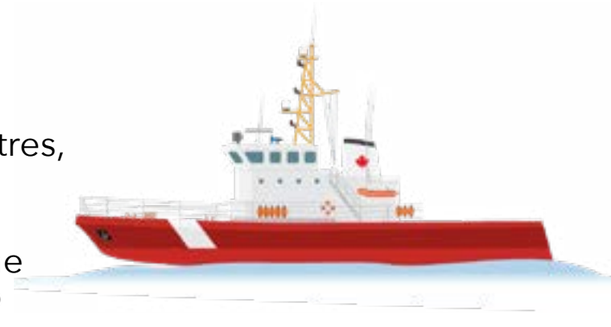
- Updated the *Pilotage Act* to ensure marine pilots taking control to navigate large vessels through ports, straits, lakes, rivers, and other Canadian waters have local knowledge before taking control.
- Constructed 3 radar towers in the Strait of Belle Isle, Newfoundland and Labrador; Robin Hood Bay (St. John's), Newfoundland and Labrador; and Strait of Canso, Nova Scotia, to improve coastal coverage and tracking for marine traffic.
- Collected seafloor data in Nova Scotia and on the west coast of Newfoundland to improve navigation charts and developed prototype dynamic tide and current models for the Strait of Canso to improve safety for mariners.
- Completed hydrographic surveys for 3 high-priority commercial ports and released 8 new or updated corresponding Electronic Navigation Charts to help mariners navigate more safely through high-traffic commercial ports and waterways. Refurbished 15 tide and water level monitoring stations.

- Deployed 3 new, state-of-the-art weather buoys—2 in Nova Scotia's Strait of Canso and 1 in Bay of Fundy—to support decision-making to reduce weather-related risks to mariners.
- Developed local forecasts for 12 to 24 hour periods to support decision-making to reduce weather-related risks to mariners.

Greater protection for coastal ecosystems

- Changed the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001* to put stronger rules in place to protect marine environments and species from the impacts of marine shipping.
- Removed or assessed over 84 abandoned and wrecked vessels from Atlantic waterways and established the *Wrecked, Abandoned or Hazardous Vessels Act*, making it illegal to abandon a vessel in Canadian waters.
- Flew an additional 1,067 hours in Transport Canada's National Aerial Surveillance Program airplanes to monitor and track marine pollution.
- Funded 18 coastal aquatic habitat rehabilitation projects to restore local ecosystems to better support marine life.
- Collaborated with partners to fund research and develop a Marine Environmental Quality guideline, which will help reduce nutrient loading in estuaries of the Northumberland Strait, improving ecosystem health there.
- Funded 26 projects through the Coastal Environmental Baseline Program to collect environmental data for a broad scope of ecosystem-focused projects in collaboration with scientists, stakeholders, and Indigenous and coastal communities in the Port of Saint John, New Brunswick, Placentia Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador. This knowledge of local habitats and species will contribute to improved understanding of the marine environment over time.
- Initiated studies on the potential effects of how marine shipping impacts the environment and coastal communities in Placentia Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador, and in the Bay of Fundy, New Brunswick.
- Trained 16 fishery officers in marine mammal response and supported the purchase of equipment to aid officer response to marine mammal incidents. Fishery officers also engage in public education campaigns in communities across the region.

Improved prevention and response to marine incidents



- Opened 3 new Canadian Coast Guard search and rescue stations in St. Anthony, Old Perlican, and Twillingate, each with a dedicated Bay Class vessel and a new fast rescue craft, to enhance the Canadian Coast Guard's ability to respond to marine emergencies, including environmental response, in the waters off the coast of Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Reopened the Canadian Coast Guard's Maritime Rescue Sub-Centre in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, to coordinate on-the-water response to marine incidents.
- Increased the number of trained and certified officers at the 5 Marine Communications and Traffic Services Centres, which strengthens the federal government's response to all marine emergencies and increases our capacity to regulate vessel traffic.
- Hired Environmental Emergency Officers, two Enforcement Officers, and a Wildlife Response Coordinator for the Atlantic Region to enhance our ability to prepare for and respond to marine environmental emergencies and to hold polluters accountable.
- Increased our ability to respond to marine mammal incidents safely and effectively. The Marine Mammal Response Program Capacity Building Fund helped addressed the equipment, gear, and training needs; built capacity among local Indigenous communities on all 3 coasts; and addressed gaps in marine mammal response across Canada, in particular the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Increased collaboration with Indigenous Peoples and coastal communities

- Co-developed Enhanced Maritime Situational Awareness (EMSA), a web-based platform, with the Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council, the Nunatsiavut Government (Inuit territory in Labrador), and 11 other Indigenous communities across Canada that provides near real-time marine traffic and environmental data to help enhance local marine safety, environmental monitoring and protection, and manage waterway activities. To date, nearly 600 licenses have been issued to Indigenous partners, coastal communities, and stakeholders across Canada.
- Saw over 340 students complete the Marine Training Program, offered in partnership with the Nova Scotia Community College, for future careers in the marine industry.
- Provided funding to the Government of Nunatsiavut to build infrastructure to promote safe freight storage in 3 communities.
- Provided funding for 9 Indigenous coastal communities to buy search and rescue boats and equipment to improve their marine safety capacity.

- Provided funding to the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq and the Maliseet to organize engagement sessions and to create an information booklet for community members on the Oceans Protection Plan and other oceans related topics.
- Contributed funding to the NunatuKavut Community Council to share information on Oceans Protection Plan.

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