



SEAFARER WELFARE The Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) & Canada

NAMMA
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Background

- The MLC 2006 was adopted in February 2006.
- Canada ratified the MLC in June 2010, the Convention entered into force on August 20, 2013.
- Canada implemented the MLC provisions in Part 3 of the *Marine Personnel Regulations* (MPR).

MLC 2006

The basic aims of the MLC 2006 are to:

- Ensure worldwide protection of the rights of seafarers; and,
- Provide decent working and living conditions for seafarers, protecting them from unfair competition on the part of substandard ships.

MLC 2006 – Key Elements

The main elements are:

- Conditions of employment;
- Accommodation, recreational facilities, food and catering;
- Health protection, medical care, welfare and social security protection; and
- Compliance and enforcement.

MLC 2006 - 2014 Amendments

Since January 18, 2017, vessel owners subject to the MLC 2006 require proof of insurance or other financial security arrangement:

- to cover eventual cost and expense of crew repatriation, as well as contractually entitled arrears of wages and entitlements following abandonment
- to cover liabilities for contractual claims arising from seafarer personal injury, disability or death

MLC 2006 - 2016 Amendments

- The 2016 amendments relate to:
 - Occupational accidents, injuries and diseases, as well as investigations:
 - Eliminating shipboard harassment and bullying
 - Investigations: Consideration of problems arising from harassment and bullying
- A copy of MLC 2006 is available at www.ilo.org.

Amendments to the Marine Personnel Regulations

- Clarification regarding the requirements for hours of rest
 - The current *Marine Personnel Regulations* meet the MLC, 2006 standard
- Adding provisions to eliminate harassment and bullying
- Adding a provision to ensure seafarers are granted shore leave

Seafarer Wellness

- Canada takes the welfare of seafarers very seriously.
- Work collaboratively with ITF and other agencies to ensure seafarers rights are respected under the MPR (MLC).
- Detain vessels when violations of the MPR (MLC) occur.
- Canada hosted seafarer mental health panel at HTW Meeting – IMO – April 2019.

Seafarer Wellness - Next Steps

- Creation of a Tripartite Seafarer Welfare Board (November 2019)
- Board will meet twice a year during CMAC
- Training /engagement sessions (seafarer wellness - fatigue)
 - Planned for Fall and Winter 2019/2020
- Connectivity – looking at ways to better connect with seafarers, seafarer missions & seafarer welfare agencies

Questions (?)

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