SEAFARER WELFARE
The Maritime Labour
Convention (MLC) & Canada

NAMMA
Charleston, SC – August 2019

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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](http://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 (?)

Elisabeth Bertrand

Executive Director
Marine Personnel Standards and Certification
Marine Safety and Security
Tel.  613-998-4278
Cell.  613-793-6275
elisabeth.bertrand@tc.gc.ca