



NAMMA Seminar
Seafarers Welfare in Canada
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Introduction

- The worldwide population of seafarers serving on internationally trading merchant ships is estimated at 1,647,500 seafarers, of which 774,000 are officers and 873,500 are ratings.
- There are around 50,000 merchant ships trading internationally, transporting every kind of cargo. The world fleet is registered in over 150 nations, and manned by over a million seafarers of virtually every nationality.



Seafarers challenges

- Seafarers today are facing a difficult dilemma – it seems that there is a lack of awareness of what they do and its importance. This then translates into difficulties ashore, crews going ashore are no longer recognized and respected as they were.
- Several cultures on board (loneliness/boredom)
- Smaller crew (long hours of work)
- Short time ashore



Seafarers challenges

- Stringent Ports/regulations for entering exiting premises (health & safety)
- Marine industry focus is on performance, costs reduction and license to operate.
- Mariners houses with limited resources (decrease in volunteering and funds availability)



My Own Experience

- Safe Heaven
- Family abroad
- Smiles and warmth



"Because the Mariners' House of Montreal provides a 'home away from home' for the many seafarers coming into our Port, it is a wonderful organization to serve and to support."

Carolyn Osborne
General Manager
Mariners' House of Montreal

International Sailors' Society Canada (ISSC)

'Supporting services for Seafarers away from home'



Offer advice, encouragement and financial assistance funding for 15 Seafarers' Centers across Canada and scholastic Bursaries and volunteer awards.



International Sailors' Society of Canada Bursaries



Fundraising 'Three Peaks Challenge'

Port role in seafarers' welfare

- Safety
- Security
- Access to shore
- Access to ships (ITF, Chaplain, etc...)
- WiFi
- Seafarers Centers



How to encourage port authorities to get involved? What are the barriers to overcome?

- Awareness
- Communications
- Infrastructures





THANK YOU