



A New Season Begins: St. Lawrence Seaway Opens for 2025

ST. CATHARINES (March 25, 2025) – The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC) officially launched its 67th navigation season today with a ceremony held at the St. Catharines Museum and Welland Canals Centre. This marks the first Opening Ceremony led by Jim Athanasiou, who assumed the role of President and CEO in July 2024. He was joined by elected officials, industry leaders, community members, and partners, including the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation.

The ATB *Everlast and Norman McLeod*, operated by McAsphalt Marine Transportation Limited, had the honour of serving as the ceremonial opening vessel, symbolizing the start of the 2025 navigation season.

In his address, Mr. Athanasiou highlighted the Seaway's enduring strength and resilience, stating:

"While today is a moment to reflect on the history, partnerships, and people who built this system, it's also about momentum, about where we go next."

During the previous navigation season, the Seaway moved nearly 37 million tonnes of cargo, including essential commodities such as grain, potash, iron and steel. The 2024 season was also the longest on record, reinforcing the Seaway's commitment to adaptability and meeting the evolving needs of its users.

"The Seaway is open and has the capacity today to move more cargo, strengthen supply chains, and support trade across North America. We're here to help businesses grow and move goods efficiently – now and into the future."

As the 67th navigation season begins, the SLSMC remains committed to innovation, collaboration, and sustainable development within this shared waterway, which connects the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes and supports economic activity across North America.

About the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation

The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC) is a not-for-profit corporation that manages and operates the Canadian assets of the St. Lawrence Seaway. Established in 1998, the SLSMC works under a long-term agreement with Transport Canada to ensure the safe, efficient, and sustainable movement of goods through one of North America's most important trade corridors. The Seaway plays a key role in connecting global markets, supporting economic growth, and advancing innovation in marine transportation. For more information, visit www.seaway.ca.

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