



The Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Seaway System
Le réseau Grands Lacs - Voie maritime du Saint-Laurent

Notice to Shipping NO. 12 – 2026

NIAGARA REGION
WELLAND CANAL

TRANSITS TO DRY DOCK OR WHARF 52A IN THE WELLAND CANAL

The following procedure must be followed for all ships intending to transit to the dry dock or Wharf 52A located above Lock 1 in the Welland Canal.

Note: Maximum permitted draft at Wharf 52A is 7.90m.

1. Advance Notification

Ships must provide the Niagara Region Ship Inspectors with a minimum of 24 hours' advance notification prior to any movement to the dry dock or Wharf 52A so that they can begin planning accordingly (email: nrshipinspectors@seaway.ca). The ship inspectors will in turn provide detailed guidelines and requirements for the move.

2. Movement Form Submission

An Ontario Shipyards representative must submit a completed PWDD-W52A Movement Form for all ship movements, regardless of draft, to the Niagara Operations Control Centre (OCC) via email to:

- nrerie@seaway.ca
- nrshipinspectors@seaway.ca
- nia-CSSO@seaway.ca

The form must be submitted a minimum of 8 hours prior to the ship's arrival at Port Weller. Updates must be provided as required.

Ontario Shipyards must also provide the name and contact number of a designated representative who will remain available throughout the ship movement and while the ship is alongside the dock.

3. Port Weller Anchorage

The ship shall proceed to Port Weller Anchorage and remain there until authorization is granted by the Niagara OCC. Authorization will be dependent on traffic conditions and all operational requirements being met. Early daytime transits are preferred whenever possible.

The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation
Corporation de Gestion de la Voie Maritime du Saint-Laurent

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4. Pre-Docking Meeting

A pre-docking meeting attended by the ship Captain, the Pilot (if applicable) and an SLSMC Ship Inspector must take place. This meeting can be conducted at Lock 1. The Ship Captain and Pilot are responsible for ensuring that all relevant information is communicated to the tugboat captains, where applicable. The purpose of the meeting is to ensure that all parties clearly understand and agree upon the docking plan.

5. Water Levels

SLSMC will maintain the minimum water levels required for the ship movement between the Lock 1 southwest wall and Wharf 52A, as well as while the ship is alongside Wharf 52A, where applicable.

May 14, 2026

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