



CURRENT SITUATION

COVID-19

MARCH 19, 2020

THE PORT OF QUÉBEC TAKES ACTION

Exceptional measures introduced regarding port operations

PROTECTING THE POPULATION AND COUNTERING THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

The Port of Québec plays a central role in the Québec City community and is a vital and indispensable hub of the Canadian and Quebec economy.

As a socially responsible organization, we are aligning all our activities and operations with government guidelines, and will endeavour to do more wherever our contribution could be beneficial.

In the current situation, where everyone must do their part to counter the spread of COVID-19, we wish to inform Québec City residents, our users, and public decision-makers of the measures adopted by our port authority.

ESSENTIAL JOBS, CONSTANT WATCH, AND DAILY STATUS REPORT

All Port of Québec employees who are able to work remotely have been doing so since March 16, and all meetings are being conducted virtually.

In order to ensure essential operations on the site, some services are being maintained (security, maintenance, supervision of operations and worksites). Most of these essential jobs are performed outdoors, and each employee concerned is now subject to stricter health measures.

The management team has been conducting comprehensive daily reviews of the situation, and access to our offices has been severely restricted.

NO TRAVEL OUTSIDE QUEBEC AND MANDATORY ISOLATION

No travel is authorized outside Quebec for work, and a 14-day isolation period is mandatory for all those returning from abroad or who have been in contact with an immediate family member returning from travel abroad.

Any employee who experiences or believes they may have symptoms related to COVID-19 must immediately inform management and will be required to remain at home for a period of 14 days.

LARGE CRUISE SHIPS PROHIBITED FROM DOCKING IN CANADA UNTIL JULY 1

Further to a directive from the Government of Canada, the cruise season, which was scheduled to begin on May 1, 2020, is now limited to ships carrying 500 passengers or less.. All cruise ships with more than 500 passengers and crew members are prohibited from docking in Canada until July 1.

The first cruise ships with less than 500 passengers and crew are due to arrive in May. Four such ships are currently scheduled. Port of Québec authorities will act in a cautious and responsible manner to determine whether these smaller ships should be allowed to dock, depending on the public health guidelines in effect at that time. Based on the situation, it is likely that the authorization for these vessels will also be reviewed.

We are continuously monitoring developments with all stakeholders involved in cruise ship reception and remain available to everyone concerned.

CREW MEMBERS OF FOREIGN FLAG VESSELS

For foreign flag vessels, the QPA's Harbour Master's Office will have to be informed in advance by the ship's marine agency in charge of the vessel, of all crew members of foreign flag vessels wishing to leave the vessel, except for the maintenance of the supply chain or the proper conduct of loading or unloading operations. It is mandatory to report COVID-19 cases to public health authorities. All ship captains must report on the health status of their crew 96 and 24 hours prior to arrival. If there are cases of COVID-19 onboard, Health Canada has the authority to quarantine any vessel.

NO GATHERINGS OF ANY SIZE THROUGH MAY 1

As of March 12, all gatherings have been banned at Port of Québec facilities. This measure will remain in place through May 1, until further notice.

A BULWARK FOR THE QUÉBEC CITY COMMUNITY

Given the key role the Port of Québec plays with its partners in the community, it must take decisive action in these exceptional circumstances. The Port of Québec will therefore strive to be an exemplary partner to Ville de Québec, the Government of Quebec, and the Government of Canada in the fight against COVID-19.

PRESERVING THE NATIONAL SUPPLY CHAIN

As long as the situation continues, the Port of Québec will do all that is necessary and stand in solidarity with the community while at the same time helping maintain the essential national supply chain.

QUESTIONS OR USEFUL OBSERVATIONS

We encourage you to contact us at any time via email at covid-19@portquebec.ca or by calling 418-648-3640.

MARIO GIRARD

Président-directeur général / President & CEO
Administration portuaire de Québec / Québec Port Authority