



## Information Sheet for Commercial Marine Industry

### COVID-19 – Foreign Tour Boats and Cruise Ships

Issued on July 15, 2020

The following is information regarding entry of foreign tour boats and cruise ships to Canada.

On June 30, 2020, Transport Canada has issued a new Interim Order, [Interim Order No.3 Respecting Passenger Vessel Restrictions Due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#), which replaces the Interim Order No. 2.

Interim Order No.3 puts in place measures announced by Minister Garneau on May 29th, prohibiting passenger vessels that are certified to carry more than 100 persons (including passengers and crew) AND are equipped with overnight capacity for passengers (bunks, cabins, etc.) from operating in Canadian waters until October 31, 2020. Vessels certified to carry more than 12 passengers will be prohibited from entering Canadian Arctic waters (waters north of the 60th parallel, including the territorial sea in the vicinity of Nunatsiavut, Nunavik and the Labrador coast), also until October 31, 2020.

Furthermore, all vessels (including small cruise ships under 100 persons capacity, tour boats and any other leisure passenger vessels) carrying foreign nationals, who are not otherwise exempted, are currently prohibited entry under the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) Orders in Council No. 16 and No. 17, which specifically prohibit foreign nationals from entering Canada for leisure purposes (entry is discretionary and optional).

The new Order in Council (colloquially referred to as OIC-16), entitled [Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order \(Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States\)](#) has been made pursuant to section 58 of the Quarantine Act. OIC 16 has effect for the period beginning on June 19, 2020 (23:59:59) and ending on July 21, 2020 (23:59:59). The Order repeals and replaces the Order in Council P.C. 2020-0442 (OIC 14).

The new Order in Council (colloquially referred to as OIC 17), entitled [Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order \(Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country other than the United States\)](#), has been made pursuant to section 58 of the Quarantine Act. OIC 17 has effect for the period beginning on June 29, 2020 (11:59:59 PM) and ending on July 31, 2020 (11:59:59 PM). The Order repeals and replaces the Order in Council P.C. 2020-0441 (OIC 13).

#### **What does this mean for tour boat and cruise ship operators?**

This means that cruise ships with over 100 persons capacity are not permitted to arrive or operate in Canada until October 31, 2020.

Additionally, as per entry prohibitions found in PHAC OICs, this means that while Canadian small cruise ships (under 100 persons capacity) and Canadian tour boats may resume operations in Canadian waters, foreign small cruise ships and tour boats carrying foreign nationals entering for leisure **continue to be prohibited entry** as long as PHAC OICs are in force. This includes entries into Canadian territorial and inland waters which do not include landing on Canadian soil or any loop movements (touring, sightseeing, whale watching, etc.).