

Media Release - Cruise vessels can now plug in at Port of Halifax

### **Cruise vessels can now plug in at Port of Halifax**

October 26, 2014, Halifax, NS – The shore power system to allow cruise vessels to plug in when calling the Port of Halifax is now complete and fully operational.

Shore power is a highly effective way to reduce marine diesel air emissions by enabling ships to shut down their auxiliary engines and connect to the electrical grid in order to provide necessary power while docked. This initiative represents the second shore power installation for cruise ships in Canada. The shore power project at the Port of Halifax is part of a \$10-million cooperative initiative between the Government of Canada, the Province of Nova Scotia and the Halifax Port Authority. The tariff was developed in partnership with Nova Scotia Power.

“This is a very positive development for Halifax and for Nova Scotia for economic development and environmental sustainability,” said the Honourable Lisa Raitt, Minister of Transport. “The cruise industry in Halifax is a major contributor to tourism in Nova Scotia. Through this investment, the Government of Canada is committed to developing this industry in an environmentally sustainable

“The shore power project is an excellent example of various levels of government working with industry leaders to become more competitive and create the conditions for growth and economic success,” said Hammonds Plains-Lucasville MLA Ben Jessome on behalf of Economic and Rural Development and Tourism Minister Michel Samson. “This project will help attract more visitors to Nova Scotia, and strengthen and support the entire tourism industry.”

“It is thanks to our funding partners, our industry partners, and our dedicated employees that we have been able to bring this project to completion,” said George Malec, Vice President, Business Development and Operations, Halifax Port Authority. “We are excited to be able to offer this service to our partners in the cruise industry, and we look forward to our continued work together as we further develop the cruise industry in Halifax.”

Testing of the shore power system at the Port of Halifax has been underway since the end of September. The system is now fully operational and is ready to be used by shore power-equipped cruise vessels calling on Halifax. The Port of Halifax anticipates over 25 shore power connections during the 2015 cruise season.

Halifax is one of the largest natural ice-free harbours in the world and has the deepest berths on the Eastern Seaboard of North America. The Port of Halifax generates approximately \$1.5 billion in annual economic impact and over 11,000 port-related jobs. Annual cruise activity accounts for about eight per cent of all tourism traffic in Nova Scotia.

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Photographs were also taken during the Queen Mary 2 connection on October 21, 2014. The link can be found here:

<https://app.box.com/s/zdz9c9lizbqx4v06d84x>