



# OCEANS PROTECTION PLAN ARCTIC PRESENCE

## OUR GOAL

The Canadian Coast Guard is proud to serve Northerners, and is always at the ready to provide search and rescue and emergency response services in the Arctic.

We also provide essential Arctic icebreaking services for commercial ships, ferries and fishing vessels in ice-covered Canadian waters. These services include vessel escorts, harbour breakouts, maintaining shipping routes and providing ice information services. This ensures safe navigation, prevents ice jams and flooding, and maintains open routes for commerce.

**We are strengthening the Canadian Coast Guard's presence and capacity in the Arctic to ensure safe marine shipping, promote economic growth, and reinforce Canada's Arctic sovereignty.**

The Canadian Coast Guard is extending its icebreaking season in the Arctic, and increasing its presence and services through the Increased Presence and Extended Season in the Arctic project, part of the Oceans Protection Plan.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Our government is a committed steward of Canada's marine environment, and is working with Indigenous and coastal communities in the Arctic to build an approach that meets their needs first and foremost.

Extending the Arctic operational season needs to be balanced with potential impacts on the traditional use of sea ice for community needs.

Our government is committed to developing a collaborative plan for an extended Arctic season for the Canadian Coast Guard.

## BENEFITS

The extension of the operational season for Canadian Coast Guard icebreakers enhances our government's capacity to support safe marine navigation and the delivery of services in the Arctic, including search and rescue and emergency response.

**Extending the operating season under this initiative lays the groundwork for launching the Canadian Coast Guard's new polar icebreaker, which will be able to remain in the Arctic for nine months of the year.**

It also allows for improved ability to re-supply communities, and helps guide our government's work to better respond to community and industry needs for an extended period. This will lower transportation costs for community re-supply.



**The Arctic Presence initiative is another action that the Government of Canada is taking to protect our coasts and waterways. Our government is investing \$1.5 billion in the Oceans Protection Plan, a national strategy to create a world-leading marine safety system that provides economic opportunities for Canadians today, while protecting our coastlines for future generations.**