



# OCEANS PROTECTION PLAN

## LIFEBOAT STATIONS AND 24/7 RESPONSE

### LIFEBOAT STATIONS

The Canadian Coast Guard strategically places search and rescue lifeboat stations across Canada, and staffs them with highly trained professionals who are well-equipped to respond to marine incidents in near-shore areas.

The Coast Guard will open new lifeboat stations in strategically chosen locations:

- Four new stations in British Columbia (in the areas of Victoria, Hartley Bay, Port Renfrew, and Nootka Sound)
- Two new stations in Newfoundland and Labrador (in the areas of Twillingate and Bay de Verde).
- The former Maritime Communications and Traffic Services centre in St. Anthony, Newfoundland and Labrador will become a seventh new search and rescue lifeboat station.

#### New lifeboat stations will help:

- **Improve response capacity to all-hazard marine incidents**
- **Increase coverage to keep mariners safer and the environment protected.**

The Coast Guard chose these areas because of identified gaps in its maritime search and rescue response capacity and planned marine traffic growth. It will choose exact locations after:

- A detailed site analysis of each chosen area is complete.
- Appropriate environmental assessments are complete.
- Engagement with Indigenous and coastal communities are complete.

Construction of the new stations should begin in summer of 2018.

Opening seven new lifeboat stations will cost \$108 million over the next five years. Ongoing funding of \$12.2 million will staff 56 new positions to improve response to maritime search and rescue incidents and other hazards, 24/7.

#### The Canadian Coast Guard's Regional Operations Centres are:

- Victoria, BC
- Montreal, QC
- St. John's, NFLD and Labrador

### 24/7 RESPONSE AT REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTRES

The Coast Guard will create 24/7 emergency response capacity within the existing Regional Operations Centres. These centres, along with the new 24/7 capacity of the National Command Centre in Ottawa, will monitor, assess, and deliver tasking and reporting functions. They will be focused primarily on marine pollution incidents, and will bolster the Coast Guard's capacity to better plan and coordinate effective response during an incident. This will speed up information sharing internally and to partners, stakeholders and the public.



Regional Operations Centres watch officers will receive specific training focused on environmental response. 24/7 response at Regional Operations Centres will better equip the federal government to respond to and manage a major environmental pollution incident. These centres should be fully operational by spring 2020.

**Lifeboat Stations and 24/7 Emergency Response are actions the Government of Canada is taking to protect our coasts and waterways. The 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.**