



# SEATIMES

## The Newsletter of the Nautical Professional Education Society of Canada

(Society founded in 1995 by the British Columbia Branch of the Nautical Institute)

Affiliated Members: The Nautical Institute (BC Branch), The Company of Master Mariners of Canada  
& The Canadian Institute of Marine Engineers.

### October 2009

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In the last year this Society have been severely affected, as have all Charitable Societies, by the extraordinary downturn in the financial markets. The two Foundations where we have invested our funds have been unable to produce the positive returns that we have enjoyed in recent years.

A bulletin from the Vancouver Foundation reads, "*This is a very different world for most of us – unlike anything else we've experienced – and certainly unlike anything we have faced in the 65-year history of Vancouver Foundation*". They knew that, "*although things are remarkably different today, the needs of the community are the same and the demand on the many services of the charitable sector might even be greater*". The Foundation's options for responding to the challenge were limited by the very Act that created the Foundation 65 years ago. The *Vancouver Foundation Act* was designed to protect the original capital invested in the endowments and did not allow for any drawing down from the original capital. So the Provincial Government was asked to amend the Act. The revised legislation, which passed on November 27<sup>th</sup> 2008, allowed the Foundation to use up to 7% of the capital (calculated as of December 31<sup>st</sup> 2008). Once the 7% is used up it cannot be accessed again. This limitation helps to protect the vast majority of the original endowment.

#### **Where Will The Next Generation of:**

**Supercargoes**

**Surveyors**

**Superintendents and**

**Senior Officers**



**Come From?**

In their decision for 2009, and given that the markets continued to deteriorate, the Foundation opted to draw down a small amount of the capital reserve. Any monies received from the capital will have to be replaced in due course. All fundholders were given three choices about how to handle the money that is deducted from our endowment. For 2009 we chose to recapitalise which means that our fund will remain intact and we will have no need to pay back any capital accessed. We did so because we felt we could still offer our annual \$1,000 scholarship this year with our existing cash and with the generous financial support of our members.

The BCIT Foundation has similar problems but it has been calculated that our investment will still generate a scholarship worth \$1,000 for this year. The value for future years will depend very much upon how well the financial markets behave and how well we are able to increase these investments with your donations.

How many of you remember this graphic? It was the front page of a leaflet created by the founding members of the Society. The question is as valid today as it was then. Our Society has already helped many seafarers progress through the industry. We need to continue that good work and as it says in a graphic overleaf, "**You are invited to help**".

## **The Problem**

Canada, like the rest of the world, faces a shortage of qualified senior officers with deepsea experience, although it does have a surplus of Watchkeeping Mates and 4th Engineering Officers.

For example, it is estimated that there are as many as 100 qualified Watchkeeping Mates for each available berth on the West Coast.

In order to obtain senior positions, seetime, particularly foreign going seetime on large vessels is required.

## **BUT**

1. Canada has few deepsea ships under the Canadian Flag and
2. Operators of Foreign Flag vessels do not recognise the Watchkeeping Mates Certificate and prefer at least an ON II deck Certificate of Competency or a Class 3 Engineering Certificate of Competency.

## **The Nautical Professional Education Society of British Columbia**

Now invites you to take part in this exciting venture as an individual, company or affiliated organisation.

Ideally, we would prefer more members sitting on the various committees which address everything from candidate selection to financial assistance.

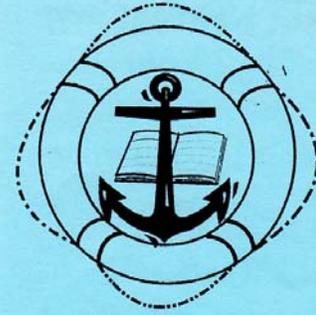
We need to have your support and listen to your ideas.

Monetary donations are also appreciated.

### **THE BENEFITS TO YOU WILL BE**

\* Knowing you are preparing Canadians to take over senior positions in all aspects of the Marine Industry including Surveying, Port Operations and Education and

\* Knowing that young Canadians are being placed in very worthwhile work at sea.



### **MEMBERSHIP TYPES and DUES**

- Annual Member \$ 40.00
- Life Member \$500.00
- Affiliated Organisations \$750.00 (plus one member on the Board)
- Corporate Member \$1000.00 per year

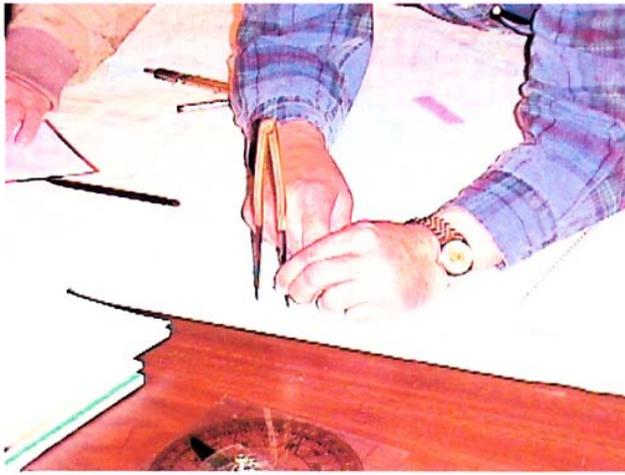
**The Nautical Professional Education Society of British Columbia** already has the support of several members and one affiliated organisation - The Nautical Institute, British Columbia Branch.

These graphics come from the leaflet devised by members of the BC Branch of the NI in 1995. Some of the facts have changed since then but the intent is the same – to assist Canadians in their quest for higher qualifications in their careers at sea.

As you can see, the Society had “British Columbia” in its name at the beginning. On January 5<sup>th</sup> 1998 “Canada” officially replaced “British Columbia” in the Society’s name. That happened after the “Company of Master Mariners of Canada” became an Affiliated Member of the Society.

It was explained on Page 1 that we shall be able to provide our annual \$1,000 bursary for this year. But we cannot be sure about our financial situation for the year 2010. Will the Vancouver Foundation be in a position to provide us with a decent dividend next year? We do not know. However we would want to continue to offer a bursary. Your contributions would help us to do so. We realise that many agencies are asking for your financial assistance but please remember that any contribution made to this Society can only be for the benefit of persons entering the industry that has provided all of us with a career.

On the next page you will see the poster that has been sent to Nautical Colleges in British Columbia. This approach is different from our offerings of previous years where we made the Bursary available solely to Cadets studying at the Marine Campus of BCIT. We look forward to providing encouragement and incentive to the deserving recipient of this year’s Bursary.



**Are you thinking of upgrading your qualifications?**

**Are you concerned about the cost of training?**

**Do you wish there were training funds available for people like you?**

**FRIDAY**

**2<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER**

## **NAUTICAL PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION SOCIETY OF CANADA**

### **2009 NAUTICAL TRAINING BURSARY**

Applications are invited from qualified students for the 2009 NPESC bursary. This bursary is for \$1,000 and will be awarded to an applicant enrolled in a Nautical Sciences or Marine Engineering course of a minimum length of 240 hours at a Transport Canada/ British Columbia Provincial Government approved training institution. The deadline for applications is shown above.

For more information contact the Secretary/Treasurer, NPESC, #20 – 1030 Hulford Street, Victoria, B.C. V8X 3B6 Tel. 250 – 388 – 7775, Fax 250 – 388 – 7705 E-mail [BrianSilvester@shaw.ca](mailto:BrianSilvester@shaw.ca)

Earlier this year we attended the BCIT Marine Campus to present the 2008 Scholarship Award. The \$1,000 cheque was presented to Engineer Cadet Xinhang (Hanson) Liu. Because he was away at sea when selected to receive the award, it was not until March that we were able to meet him.

On July 31<sup>st</sup> we attended the Convocation Ceremony for this year's graduates of both the Nautical Science and Engineer courses of the BCIT Marine Campus. This ceremony was held at the Downtown Campus of BCIT in Vancouver.



Shown above are Junior Officer Adam Crysler, from the Nautical Science Class, who received "The Colregs Guide" (published by Dokmar) for Nautical Science and Junior Officer Matthew Thomas, from the Marine Engineering Class, who received "Marine Firefighting". Also receiving a copy of "Marine Firefighting" was Junior Officer Michael Malone of the Nautical Science Class.

In the next edition of "Seatimes" we will be able to report on the results of the Bursary we have advertised on Page 3. This is the first year that we have made the offer to all Nautical Schools in British Columbia and we are looking forward to seeing who and how many respond to this opportunity.

Once again I appeal to you to help your Society to continue to offer this and other Bursaries. Your financial support will be most welcome.

Finally, please note that the Society's 2009 AGM will be held on November 19<sup>th</sup>. @ 1030 hrs.  
 Place: Western Maritime Institute  
 3519 Hallberg Road  
 Ladysmith, B.C.

David Whitaker FNI. Chairman.

**Contributions to the Society should be made payable to the NPESC and mailed to: -**

**Nautical Professional Education Society of Canada,  
 20 – 1030 Hulford Street, Victoria, B.C. V8X 3B6**

When making a donation please complete the form below to accompany your cheque.



**Yes!** I wish to support the aims of the Nautical Professional Education Society of Canada.

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution of: \$.....

Name .. Telephone .....

Address .. E-mail address .