



# SEATIMES

The Newsletter of the Nautical Professional Education Society of Canada  
(Society founded in 1995 by the British Columbia Branch of the Nautical Institute)

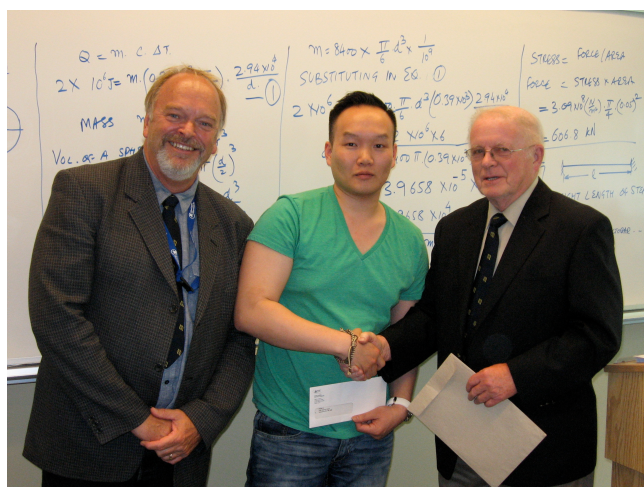
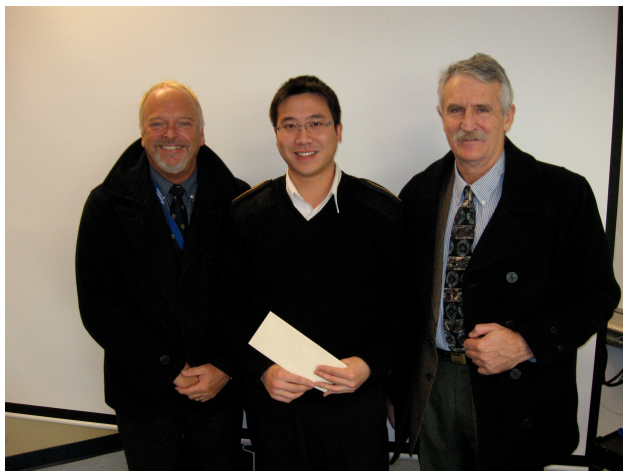
Affiliated Members: The Company of Master Mariners of Canada & The Canadian Institute of Marine Engineering.

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July 2014

**Bursaries:** The Society's Bursary for 2013, generated from funds endowed with the *Vancouver Foundation* and valued at \$1,500, was awarded to BCIT Second Year Nautical Science Cadet Danny Lai. The presentation was made at the Marine Campus of BCIT on November 27<sup>th</sup>. Making the award was Society Chairman, Captain John Lewis FNI and Captain Richard Smith MNI, a Society Director.

**A second presentation** occurred on June 24<sup>th</sup>. This was the Society's "*BCIT Foundation – First Year Achievement Award*" for 2013. That award is presented to a Marine Engineering Cadet in



odd numbered years and to a Nautical Science Cadet in even numbered years. The faculty at the Marine Campus select the winner of the Bursary. The BCIT Foundation makes the awards every November, but, unfortunately the first year Engineering Cadets are away at sea in November and we must delay the presentation until such time that the students return for their second academic year. The name of the recipient cannot be announced until it is known that he or she has definitely returned to the Marine Campus for the second academic year. **It took a long time but we finally received a name.** June 24<sup>th</sup> was chosen as the day to make the presentation at the school. Captain Richard

Smith and myself, both Directors of the Society, went before the Class with a BCIT Foundation cheque for Engineer Cadet Phillip Li. That Foundation endowment does not generate enough income at this time so a Society cheque was added to make the award worth \$1,000.00.

**Since 2001, the Society has awarded more than \$21,000 in Bursaries.**

**David Whitaker FNI.**

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**Selling shipping to children:** How can we enthuse children with the magic of ships and the wonders of the essential shipping industry that feeds and fuels the world? Somehow we need to boil down the fascinating facts of modern maritime technology into a dish that will interest the young. There are many ways in which we can approach this, if we can agree that attracting the next generation is important.

Shipping can be served up to the young as part of the school curriculum, with geography and history demonstrating the importance of ships and the sea down through the ages. The interest in the environment can be harnessed and there are many aspects of marine transport and technology that are relevant in this respect, from its record in safely and sustainably moving so much around the world.

But it is the spectacular nature of shipping, its amazing technology and ability to engage the “wow” factor that can be its main advantage in attracting the attention of children. What is the world’s biggest mechanically propelled moving object? **A ship!** Children love facts and figures; they have a natural curiosity and an interest in the biggest, fastest, most powerful – even the most expensive! The tools of the shipping industry can fascinate children.

They need to have these subjects presented in an attractive fashion. They need to know how things work. They need first class artwork, exploded drawings, good video and animation, excellent books and charts, exciting illustrations and lively explanations. Is anyone producing such material? A specialist children’s bookstore produced six books about pirates (not the modern variety) and three featuring the *Titanic*.

Not long ago a major shipowner complained that he was unable to find any “marine” toys for his young children and it is a very valid point. Lego now produces a “build your own Maersk containership” but there is a shortage of attractive and affordable toys that might encourage some maritime interests.



A very good start would be a series of little books that can produce a basic interest in ships and shipping, with an appealing set of characters. How can we produce a marine equivalent of “Bob the Builder” or “Thomas the Tank Engine”, the series that gripped children’s imagination 50 years after steam had disappeared from the main lines? They gave rise to all sorts of “spinoff” products, which have lasted and continue to generate both interest and income from the owners. We clearly need to try harder!

What will be required are mainly imagination and some knowledge of ships and shipping and, dare we say it, some enterprise and investment. If we can catch children early, tell them something about the amazing maritime world and the ships upon we all depend, it is an awareness that can be cultivated and grown as children mature into young adults, who might be conceivably interested in marine careers.

02.07.14 [https://www.bimco.org/Education/Seascapes/Maritime\\_Matters/2014\\_07\\_02\\_Selling\\_shipping\\_to\\_children.aspx](https://www.bimco.org/Education/Seascapes/Maritime_Matters/2014_07_02_Selling_shipping_to_children.aspx)

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**Students to set sail with Algoma:** As of September, local Catholic high school students will have the opportunity to learn what it's like to be sailors. Through a new partnership agreement between Algoma Central Corporation and Niagara Catholic District School Board, students will be invited to spend up to five days sailing aboard Algoma's vessels sailing through the Great Lakes.

The board's student success coordinator Marco Magazzeni said students could be aboard the ships from two to five days at a time, as long as the work placements do not interfere with earning the credits needed for graduation. "Just to walk on to one of those ships is phenomenal," he said, after signing the agreement during a ceremony at Lock 8 Park in Port Colborne Wednesday morning.

"It's mind blowing for me as well. It's such an unconventional industry. Now we're allowing our kids into that best kept secret. It's pretty exciting."

Magazzeni said the students don't necessarily need to be pursuing a career as a sailor to participate in the work placement opportunities aboard the ships.

"There's electricians, steam fitters, students from the hospitality program" that could participate, he said.

"There's a wide variety of trades people on the ships, but we also want to include engineering, design, and technology. It all falls within that industry," Magazzeni added. "We're offering our students the opportunity to cater to your career, to the careers that are becoming available and that are available."

Algoma's president Greg Wight said the company's workers aboard the ships should have no problem working with the up-and-coming sailors.

"They're used to having people looking over their shoulders. They'll do fine," Wight said.

For a corporation facing the retirement of more than half its workforce within the next decade, Wight said "attracting and retaining young workers is a very big challenge and priority for Algoma."

"Any chance we can get to partner with schools that will provide future employees, we jump at it," he said. "It's our future."

Wight said the agreement with the school board was coordinated with the assistance of the City of Port Colborne.

"Apprenticeships are alive and thriving in Port Colborne within the manufacturing sector and you're hearing it from the CEO of a multi-million corporation that there are positions on the horizon," Magazzeni told a group of Lakeshore Catholic High School students during the ceremony.

Meanwhile, Magazzeni said the NCDSB continues to expand the opportunities for its students.

Thursday, the board will sign an agreement with the Canadian Wildlife Federation, and Magazzeni said he's currently working with a large railway company to develop a similar partnership. [allan.benner@sunmedia.ca](mailto:allan.benner@sunmedia.ca)

<http://www.stcatharinesstandard.ca/2014/05/07/students-to-set-sail-with-algoma>  
May 7<sup>th</sup> 2014



Algoma President Greg Wight & Student Success Coordinator Marco Magazzeni sign agreement.



**From container ship to Centre Court:** The humble banana has been the source of much controversy during Wimbledon this year. From British Number 1 Heather Watson suffering lock jaw trying to eat one, to banana breakfasts being blamed for Andy Murray's early exit – they are a regular sight on centre court and now a new poll has revealed them to be our favourite fruit.

A survey of one thousand people across the UK – commissioned by charity Seafarers UK – has revealed a third of people (35.5%) have voted bananas are the imported fruit they can't live without.

The banana is the UK's biggest food import – with 1.1 million tonnes imported in 2013 – the equivalent weight of 95,000 London buses. Half the food eaten in the UK is imported and, of this, a staggering 95% comes by ship.

According to tennis experts, it was Martina Navratilova who turned bananas into the ultimate tennis food. In 1982 the Czech star was struggling to reach her full potential when she met nutritionist, Robert Haas, who put her on a low-fat, high-carb diet involving bland pasta and bananas. Haas believed they were 'better than Gatorade'. Navratilova won 102 of her next 104 matches.

Murray won his first grand slam crown, the 2012 US Open, at the age of 25, meaning that by that point of his career he had consumed well over the equivalent of 8,914 bananas.

As an island nation, the UK relies on merchant shipping for 95% of its imports and 75% of exports. The UK's seaports handle over half a billion tonnes of goods a year with 1.5 million seafarers employed in the global shipping industry, of which 71,310 are from the UK. Our most valuable food export is chocolate – with £571m exported every year by sea.



Barry Bryant, Director General of Seafarers UK, said, "The maritime industry is one of the oldest in the world and today remains the number one means of importing vital food into the UK, from bananas to bacon, brie to Brazil





nuts. Yet shockingly our research found that a third of us think seafarers are less important today than 100 years ago.

"It is a concern that people do not understand how much seafarers do for us. Not just importing food and other goods, but also exporting UK-made produce, keeping shipping lanes open and protecting the UK's interests at home and abroad." <http://shipmanagementinternational.com/from-container-ship-to-centre-court/>

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***From the pages of the BowWave, January 1995.***

**The Professional Marine Education Society of British Columbia.**



For those who attended the NIBC AGM back in June of 1994, you will remember there was lengthy discussion on the formation of the above captioned society. Since that day the Directors have been working hard to bring this venture to fruition. We are now in a position to give you an update on the present situation. The incorporation of the Society is under way and close to conclusion due to the expertise and diligence of Gerry Stanford. He has guided this project through the meandering channels of bureaucracy and the legal process. Following approval of the Constitution and By-Laws by the Registrar of Companies an application will be made for the Society to be registered as a Charitable Foundation.

The founding members of this new Society are the Directors of the B.C. Branch of The Nautical Institute. Once everything is in place, the fledgling Society will be encouraging new members and there will be a requirement for Directors to be elected, included in which will be a Treasurer. There will also be a need for auditors to be appointed. The Society has already been promised "seed" money by the Provincial Government and once in full operation will seek sponsorship and donations from other sources. You are encouraged to become a member of this Society, which will be a totally separate entity from The Nautical Institute.

For more information on this venture please contact Gerry Stanford or one of your Directors.

***We now know that the name of the Society changed and ultimately became The Nautical Professional Education Society of Canada.***

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Do you wish to make a financial contribution to the Society? Annual Membership remains at \$40.00 but any amount that you can donate will be greatly appreciated.

Please make your cheque payable to the NPESC  
and mail it to: -

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

**Thank you.**

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