

# BLESSING OF THE FLEET

Saturday June 24, 2017

Pier 3 - Royal Canadian Navy Pier  
Prince Arthur's Landing Marina

10:30 a.m. The Macgillivray Pipe Band  
performs a tattoo

11:00 a.m. Blessing of the Fleet

All vessels are invited to participate  
and spectators are welcome.

Sponsored by

## **MISSION TO SEAFARERS**

*Port of Thunder Bay  
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www.missiontoseafarers.ca  
Chaplain: Canon Ed Swayze*



Caring for seafarers  
around the world

## **A Message from the Mayor**

On behalf of City Council and the citizens of Thunder Bay; please accept our warmest regards for this year's Blessing of the Fleet ceremony.

Whether through the transportation of precious and valuable cargo to and from Thunder Bay's Port, or bringing the region's earliest settlers to the area they would come to call home, shipping has played a major role in the development of our City and region.

The Great Lakes, and the ships that sail them, have shaped the development of Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario. Our working Port is a cornerstone in our economic history. Many of those who would settle in the region and build it into what it is today first set foot on Northwestern Ontario soil after stepping off a ship at Prince Arthur's Landing.

Today, one needs simply look out over Lake Superior to see the importance that the water still carries: you'll see everything from huge, international salties and recreational sailboats to kayakers and canoeists. The water and our ships, no matter their size, remain a major part of Thunder Bay's identity.

We all owe those sailors and their ships a debt of gratitude, and the customary Blessing of the Fleet is not only a way to pay those respects, but also wish today's seafaring vessels, and those who sail them, a safe season on the water.

The Blessing of the Fleet is a ceremony marked in many different places, and while the specific wording and customs may differ, the overall message remains the same.

In keeping with that tradition, we in Thunder Bay wish you all a safe and prosperous shipping season.

Sincerely,



Keith P. Hobbs, Mayor  
City of Thunder Bay  
www.thunderbay.ca

## **A Message from the Canon Ed Swayze, Chaplain**

The sea gives our society food, a means to transport our trade, a place to play and recreate ourselves, and resulting employment provides the means for families to thrive. Yet seafaring is inherently dangerous. Drowning and hypothermia are natural dangers; collision, piracy and war are human dangers. Employment requires long absences from family.

We ask God to bless our labours so that they will be fruitful and our activities safe.

We, the Mission to Seafarers, hope that people taking part in this service, will be blessed and that the maritime community's contribution to Thunder Bay is appreciated.

Yours in Christ,

Canon Ed Swayze  
Chaplain

### **Thank you to**

- All of the volunteers who worked to make the Blessing of the Fleet a success, particularly Anne Zuliani, Janet Pike, Cecily Hewitt, Dorothy Nesbitt, David Stephens, and Brad Yeo
- Guy Jarvis, Harbourmaster, Thunder Bay Port Authority;
- The City of Thunder Bay for the use of Marina Park;
- The Macgillivray Pipe Band  
[www.macgillivraypipeband.com](http://www.macgillivraypipeband.com); and
- Rollason Flowers Limited for the donation of flowers.

## **Blessing of the Fleet**

### **Vessel Instructions**

*The service will be broadcast on VHF channel 71. Channel 16 will be monitored, and channel 72 will be used for communications between vessels and the Marina Lookout. In the event of winds being in excess of 20 knots or heavy rain, the Blessing will be cancelled at 1030 by a radio broadcast.*

**Welcome** Lieutenant Commander (Ret'd) Les Newman,  
Master of Ceremonies

### ***National Anthem***

O Canada! Our home and native land!  
True patriot love in all thy sons command.  
With glowing hearts we see thee rise  
The true North strong and free;  
From far and wide, O Canada,  
We stand on guard for thee.  
God keep our land glorious and free!  
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.  
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

### ***Mayor's Representative's Remarks***

#### ***Opening Prayer***

Our Father, we ask your presence upon this event of the blessing of the fleet. We thank you for the beauty of the earth and the mighty waters that surround the land. May we responsible for the just and proper use of your creation. Like the psalmist of old we cry onto you for the protection of those who go down to the sea in ships. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

#### ***Sailor's Psalm, Psalm 107:23-31***

Some went down to the sea in ships  
and plied their trade in deep waters;  
They beheld the works of the Lord  
and his wonders in the deep.  
Then he spoke, and a stormy wind arose,  
which tossed high the waves of the sea.  
They mounted up to the heavens  
and fell back to the depths;  
their hearts melted because of their peril.  
They reeled and staggered like drunkards  
and were at their wits' end.  
Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,  
and he delivered them from their distress.

He stilled the storm to a whisper  
and quieted the waves of the sea.  
Then were they glad because of the calm,  
and he brought them to the harbour they were bound for.  
Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy  
and the wonders he does for his children.

### ***Thanksgiving for Seafarers***

Almighty God we give thanks for all those who work at sea. We acknowledge our need for the food and raw materials they transport. We recognise that they are sometimes in danger and their long absences often involve sacrifices in their family life. Help us to show our gratitude not only in our words, but also in our actions. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### ***Prayer for the Shipping Industry***

Almighty God, we pray for the shipping industry, for those who build, own and manage ships. Give them the will to care for those who go to sea. And grant to all who work at sea the blessings of safe ships, good food and a just reward for all their work. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We pray, O God for all seafarers as they fulfill the duties and face the dangers of their calling: the officers, men and women of the Royal Canadian Navy; Canadian Coast Guard and Auxiliary; police and fire rescue; the fishing fleet; pilots; and all who carry out the services of docks and harbours. Grant them your strength and protection and keep them in the hours of special need; for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

### ***Flower Memorial for seafarers who died at sea***

#### ***Prayer of Blessing***

Today we gather to bless these ships and these boats; those who work on them; those who protect our country; those who protect our citizens; those who provide food from these waters; and those who use these waters for family and pleasure. Let us pray.

God of boundless love, at the beginning of creation your spirit hovered over the deep. You called forth every creature and the seas teemed with life. Your son Jesus calmed the Sea of Galilee, brought his disciples to safety, and filled the nets of his disciples. He has given us the rich harvest of salvation. Bless these ships and these boats, the equipment and all who serve on them and who would use them. Protect them from the dangers of wind and rain and of the perils of the deep. Bring us all to the harbour of light and peace. May the saving power of our Lord guide and protect us all. In the name of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

### ***Naval/Mariners' Hymn***

Eternal Father, strong to save,  
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep  
Its own appointed limits keep:

O hear us when we cry to thee  
For those in peril on the Sea

O Christ, whose voice the waters heard,  
And hushed their raging at Thy word,  
And walkest on the foaming deep,  
And calm amid the storm didst sleep;

O hear us when we cry to thee  
For those in peril on the Sea

### ***Parade of Sail***

*Harbourmaster Vessel, commercial vessels, government vessels, recreational vessels under power, recreational vessels under sail, canoes and kayaks.*

### ***Concluding Remarks***

*The Sawyers Bay Race takes place today starting at 1200.*

*We welcome to today's service, the Right Reverend Anne Germond, Bishop of Algoma.*

### ***Thunder Bay Port Authority***

The Port of Thunder Bay is 8<sup>th</sup> on the total tonnage list of annual shipments for all Canadian Port Authorities. The Port has 9 operating grain elevators and a malt house which directly employed more than 400 operating and management personnel supported by a further 105 persons engaged in inspection, sampling and weighing. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> largest commodity movements through the port are coal and potash. Other cargoes are salt, steel, aggregates, petroleum and liquid chemical products, and forest products (mainly wood pulp). The Port offers a full range of vessel services.



Under the provisions of the Canada Marine Act, the Thunder Bay Port Authority is responsible for the operation of the Port including ice breaking, maintenance of aids to navigation and the breakwater, and dredging. It operates Keefer Terminal, which is a warehouse facility, and administers Harbour Park subdivision.

The Thunder Bay Port Authority has received the MASTER's Award for its sponsorship of the Mission to Seafarers.

[www.portofthunderbay.com](http://www.portofthunderbay.com)



### **Mission to Seafarers: Port of Thunder Bay**

In 2016,

- 85 ocean-going ships were serviced by the chaplain and volunteers;
- 512 seafarers visited the Seafarers' Centre at Keefe Terminal (100 Main St.);
- The Mission's van transported 902 seafarers to the Seafarers' Centre, shopping and city tours; and
- Part-time chaplain and 23 volunteers helped seafarers.

The Seafarers' Centre at Keefe Terminal is a safe place for seafarers to relax and it is open to all seafarers regardless of race or religion. Satellite TV and access to telephones and Wi-Fi are available; and SIM cards and phone cards are for sale. Seafarers may take Bibles and gently used warm men's clothing and magazines.



The Mission to Seafarers is outreach of the Anglican Church supported by donations from the Anglican Diocese of Algoma, Thunder Bay Port Authority, local churches, businesses, service clubs and individuals.

**[www.missiontoseafarers.ca/thunderbay](http://www.missiontoseafarers.ca/thunderbay)**

### **Lakehead Tugboats Inc.**

Lakehead Tugboats is locally owned and operated by Paul Lecuyer. It operates the tugs: **George N. Carleton**, **Robert John**, and **Teclutsa**.

**[www.lakeheadtugs.com](http://www.lakeheadtugs.com)**

### **Thunder Bay Tug Services Ltd**

Family owned and operated for over 50 years by the Dawson family. The company began as Thunder Bay Marine Services Limited in 1959, by Elliott and Wealthy Dawson. They operated a "bum boat", or floating store, selling dry goods to vessels at anchor. Son, Gerry purchased it in 1983. Thunder Bay Tug Services was established in 1989 with a leased tug, but then purchased the Point Valour in 1993, which towed the James Whalen from Quebec to Thunder Bay. The **Tug Glenada** from Sarnia, was added in 1995 to help with the increase in "ship assist" work in Thunder Bay. The **Tug Miseford** was purchased in Port Maitland and sailed here in September 2004. **Robert W.** and **Rosalee D.** are also vessels of Thunder Bay Tug Services.

Thunder Bay Tug Services Ltd. is locally owned and operated by Captain Gerry Dawson. It's primary business is "ship assist" work in the Thunder Bay harbour, and the Glenada has also towed barges to Isle Royale.

**[www.thunderbaytugservices.ca](http://www.thunderbaytugservices.ca)**

### **Commercial Fishers**

Ten commercial fishing vessels fish Whitefish, Lake Trout and Herring from Thunder Bay to Hurkett. The fish are sold to Presteve Fisheries of Sault Ste. Marie and Kemp Fisheries of Duluth, which export the fish around the world. In Thunder Bay the commercial fishing vessels dock at the mouth of Current River. Some of these vessels are also in the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

### **Canadian Coast Guard**



The Coast Guard delivers the following programs:

- Icebreaking
- Boating Safety
- Search & Rescue
- Aids to Navigation
- Navigable Waters Protection
- Environmental Protection & Response

The Base at Keefe Terminal houses the maintenance centre, and the CCGS CAPE CHALLION crew quarters.

The lifeboat, CCGS CAPE CHALLION built in 2003, has a crew of four, twin diesels and a speed of 26 knots. CAPE CHALLION was stationed in Thunder Bay in 2004.

**[www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca](http://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca)**

## **Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary**

The Coast Guard Auxiliary is members who use their privately owned vessels in a volunteer capacity. The Auxiliary supplements the full-time Coast Guard, doing boating safety education, and providing search and rescue coverage, which is particularly important in areas where a Coast Guard Life Boat such as the CAPE CHALLION is not stationed.

Rick Oldale is the Director of District 7 of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, which covers Thunder Bay and the north shore of Lake Superior. Vessels in District 7 include: Loon Magic, Melissa, Marion G., Irish Mist, Morning Star, Omega II, Bounty Hunter and Sea Escape.

[www.ccg-a.com](http://www.ccg-a.com)

## **HMCS GRIFFON**



HMCS GRIFFON is a Naval Reserve Division (unit) in the Royal Canadian Navy. GRIFFON's purpose is to recruit and train people to augment the Navy, serving aboard Maritime Coastal Defense Vessels (MCVD) and Frigates. Sailors train one night a week and go away for summer training and work. Once people are qualified they can obtain short-term contracts for employment.

GRIFFON is located at 125 Algoma St. N. Contact GRIFFON at (807) 343-5200.

GRIFFON's Boat Shed and the Lake Superior Sail Centre Boat shed are located on the waterfront north of the marina.

[www.navy-marine.forces.gc.ca](http://www.navy-marine.forces.gc.ca)

## **Ontario Provincial Police – Thunder Bay Detachment North West Region**

### **WATERWAYS POLICING**

#### *Introduction*

The Police Services Act (PSA) sets out the general responsibilities of the OPP in respect to jurisdiction, enforcement of federal and provincial laws, traffic patrol and assistance to municipalities. In addition to, or in meeting such general responsibilities, certain specific functions performed by the OPP are discussed in the following policy.

#### *Enforcement*

The function of navigable waterways law enforcement must be distinguished from that of search and rescue, and enforcement includes the enforcement of laws regulating the operation of and required equipment on vessels.

#### *Navigable waterways*

Navigable waterways within and bordering on the Province may be classified into three general categories:

- waterway within the Province, some of which may be connected to a bordering waterways system such as the Great Lakes system;

- waterway bordering on the Province, e.g. James Bay; and
- river or canal system within or bordering on the Province and specifically designated as under federal jurisdiction, e.g. the Ottawa River–Trent-Severn waterways system.

As part of this responsibility, the OPP enforces all federal and provincial legislation including:

- the boating operations sections of the Criminal Code; and
- Canada Shipping Act and Regulations.

#### *Communications Equipment*

An OPP vessel shall, whenever practicable, and as local conditions require, be equipped with such communications equipment necessary to contact other vessels equipped with marine band radios.

#### *Screening Device*

Whenever practicable, OPP vessels shall be equipped with an approved screening device as defined in the Criminal Code and its regulations.

#### *Stopping Marine Violator*

When a member finds it necessary to stop a vessel, they shall make the necessary manoeuvres with the utmost regard for the safety of all concerned.

[www.opp.ca](http://www.opp.ca)

## **Thunder Bay Fire & Rescue Service**

The Thunder Bay Fire & Rescue Service provides citizens with a highly trained emergency service capable of handling various emergency situations ranging from fire suppression, extrication, hazardous materials, vehicle and industrial accidents, medical assistance, defibrillation, high & low angle rescue, confined space rescue and ice and water rescue. Thunder Bay Fire & Rescue Service also conducts ongoing Fire Code Enforcement and fire cause investigations and is committed to delivering fire & life safety education, juvenile fire setter intervention and programming for youth, seniors and our community partners.

## **Thunder Bay Yacht Club**

The club was founded in August 1945 and offers its members:

- Launch and Haul facilities complete with carry lift and crane and fenced winter storage on the Mission Island property;
- Complete sail racing program including long distance races;
- Year round social events;
- Education and boating safety programs;
- Youth sailing, learn to sail programs; and
- Active participants in tourism and land use planning on behalf of its members and the boating public at large.





## The New Crew Program

Each year the Thunder Bay Yacht Club offers four days of instruction in basic sailing and an introduction to sailboat racing. The New Crew Program takes place in early June. It consists of three hours of in-class instruction followed by on the water sailing experience on keel boats owned by members of the Thunder Bay Yacht Club. The philosophy of the program is based on the conviction that the best way to learn to sail is to crew on a racing sailboat even if your long term objectives in sailing do not include racing. If you join a crew, you will gain considerable experience learning from experienced skippers and fellow crew members. The objective of the course is to make participants comfortable and contributing members of a racing crew.

Anyone interested in learning to sail is invited to contact Bill Dunlop at 768-5885.

[www.tbyc.on.ca](http://www.tbyc.on.ca)

## Lakehead Power and Sail Squadron

The Lakehead Power and Sail Squadron is a squadron of the Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons. As a voluntary organization, it offers offering courses for recreational boaters.

Classes start in January or courses may be taken on a self study basis any time. To register go to [www.boatingcourses.ca](http://www.boatingcourses.ca)



Boating Basics is done on-line and it grants the Pleasure Craft Operators Card (PCOC). It is required for anyone operating a recreational vessel.

Boating 1 - Boating Basics	Introduction to Weather for Recreational Boaters*
Boating 2 - Beyond Boating Basics*	Global Weather
Boating 3 - Introduction to Marine Navigation*	Sailing
Boating 4 - Near Shore Marine Navigation Level 1 (Seamanship)*	Extended Cruising
Boating 5 - Near Shore Marine Navigation Level 2 (Advanced Piloting)	Boat and Engine Maintenance
Boating 6 – Off Shore Marine Navigation Level 1 (Junior Navigator)	Maritime Radio*
Boating 7 – Off Shore Marine Navigation Level 2 (Global Navigation)	

\* offered in the winter of 2018 at Superior CVI.

[www.boatingcourses.ca](http://www.boatingcourses.ca)

## NWO Lake Superior Sail Centre

The Lake Superior Sail Centre runs sail training programs for local Sea Cadet Corps: RCSCC Vindictive (Thunder Bay North); RCSCC Fort William (Thunder Bay South); and RCSCC Onondaga (Nipigon). The Sail Centre is located on the Thunder Bay Harbour, just north of Marina Park. The Royal Canadian Sea Cadet programme is for young men and women ages 12 to 18. The Canadian Armed Forces in partnership with the Navy League of Canada run the programme.

[www.cadets.ca](http://www.cadets.ca)

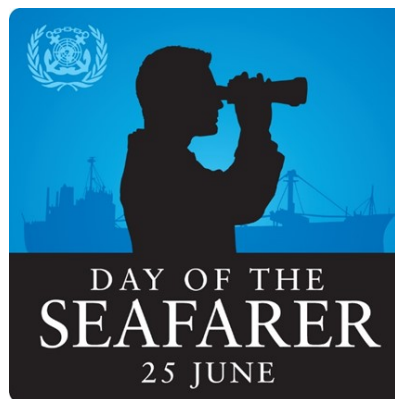
## Sail Thunder Bay

Sail Thunder Bay offers learn to sail programs for children and adults at the beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. NEW CANSail Programs and Race Coaching are taught by our knowledgeable and well trained certified Sail Canada Instructors.

Sail Thunder Bay is a non-profit sailing school operated by a group of devoted sailors and volunteers from the Temple Reef Sailing Club.

We are located at the end of Pier One in Thunder Bay Marina Park and are open from June to September for all local sail instruction.

[www.sailthunderbay.com](http://www.sailthunderbay.com)



In 2010, the International Maritime Organization (IMO), decided to designate June 25<sup>th</sup> as the International Day of the Seafarer as a way to recognize that almost everything that we use in our daily lives has been directly or indirectly affected by sea transport.

The purpose of the day is to give thanks to seafarers for their contribution to the world economy and the civil society; and for the risks and personal costs they bear while on their jobs.

## Background

According to IMO's estimates, ships transport almost 90 % of the world's goods trade. Seafarers are not only responsible for the operations of such ships, but are also responsible for the safe and smooth delivery of the cargo.

The day not only acknowledges the invaluable work of seafarers, but also aims to bring global attention to the issues affecting their work and lives, such as piracy. It calls on governments to develop policies that lead to fair treatment of seafarers at ports, and asks private ship companies and owners to provide their employees proper facilities and comforts while they are at sea.

[www.imo.org](http://www.imo.org)