

## Canadian Coast Guard



### Responsibilities

The Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) is responsible for the regulation of vessel traffic movements on the St. Lawrence River, fixed and floating aids to navigation, icebreaking services in Canadian waters and provides flood control in areas prone to or threatened by flooding. The CCG also carries out marine search and rescue, protects Canadian waters from ecological damage which could result from spills of hazardous substances, water safety programs as well as the surveillance of waterways. Furthermore, the CCG supplies vital information to commercial navigators, such as ice conditions and the presence of shoals, to ensure their safe passage. Finally, the CCG protects the public's right to navigate, assures safety of mariners, protects the marine environment and is temporary guardian of any wreck removed from Canadian waters until the true owner is notified. The responsibility of many of these mandates is shared with other government departments, such as the Transportation Safety Board of Canada, Transport Canada and Environment Canada.

### Two important areas of activity will be presented on May 16<sup>th</sup>

The Ice Management Centre monitors ice concentration and movement between Cabot Strait and Montreal using images from video cameras, radar and satellites and patrolling in icebreakers and helicopters. This is the coordination centre for icebreaking and escort services carried out by the icebreakers to prevent the risk of flooding caused by ice jams and to prevent the risk of marine incidents.

Marine Communications and Traffic Services is the Branch of the Canadian Coast Guard that provides communications and vessel traffic services to the sea-going public. MCTS monitors for distress radio signals; provides the communication link between vessels in distress and the Rescue Co-ordination Centres and the Maritime Rescue Sub-Centres; sends safety information; handles public communication; and regulates the flow of traffic in some areas.