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Port of Prince Rupert Newsletter

May 2009

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Port of Prince Rupert Total Tonnage Drops 24.5 per cent

Tonnage throughput at the Port of Prince Rupert was down 24.5 per cent for the first quarter 2009 compared to the first quarter 2008, from 3.07 million to 2.3 million tonnes.

The main contributor to the decline was coal shipments through Ridley Terminals. All other traffic sectors at the Port of Prince Rupert showed positive performance levels when compared to the same period last year. Container tonnage throughput nearly doubled, chemicals increased 84 per cent, while grain and log shipments held their own.

Fairview Terminal Container Volumes Continues Positive Trends



The Port of Prince Rupert's Fairview Container Terminal handled 41,043 TEUs (20-foot equivalent units) in the first three months of 2009, nearly double the 21,040 TEUs in the first quarter 2008.

"We need to keep in mind that the Fairview Terminal only commenced operations on November 1, 2007 and the first quarter of 2008 was part

of the ramping up period," notes Prince Rupert Port Authority President & CEO **Don Krusel**. "However, we are very pleased with the container terminal's performance and volumes during this severe global economic downturn. We feel this reflects our customers' continued satisfaction with the speed, reliability and cost effectiveness they are experiencing in moving their cargo through Prince Rupert."

During the first quarter, all import containers were fully loaded, while 32.5 per cent of outbound containers destined for Asia were fully laden.

Prince Rupert Grain Volumes Steady, Ridley Terminals Down

Led by a 26 per cent increase in wheat shipments, Prince Rupert Grain matched its first quarter 2008 throughput, moving nearly 1.27 million tonnes of product through the terminal. Shipments of barley and canola were down by 316,791 tonnes for the first three months of 2009.



Meanwhile, the Ridley Terminals coal facility handled 639,765 tonnes from January to March 2009, a decline of 61 per cent compared to the 1.59 million tonne throughput in 2008. RTI has been heavily impacted by the curtailment of coal production by its major customers in northern British Columbia. Wood pellet and petroleum coke shipments were also down, while coking coal was up nearly 42 per cent.

For more information, visit [First quarter 2009 results](#)

Prince Rupert 2009 Cruise Season Underway May 7

The 2009 cruise season begins May 7 with the arrival of the 2,240-passenger Norwegian Star, which will visit Prince Rupert 17 times over the course of the season. The Port is expecting 27 cruise ship and large pocket cruiser calls, bringing 48,463 visitors to the region where "*Where Canada's Wilderness Begins*". This includes The World, a floating residential community of up to 300 residents that will call here on July 23.



Norwegian Star sailing into Prince Rupert Harbour during 2008 cruise season.

The increased competition in the cruise industry, particularly in the Alaska Theatre, and the economic downturn have resulted in more than 50 per cent fewer passengers than the record 103,000 passengers who visited Prince Rupert in 2008.

"Our goal for this cruise season is to work with the community to continue to build infrastructure and enhance the experience of independent guests while still delivering on our world-class shore excursion programs," explains Vice President Marketing & Business Development **Shaun Stevenson**, adding that Prince Rupert has been in the cruise business for only five years and is still growing.

Asian Trade Mission Reveals Positive Awareness of Prince Rupert Gateway and Corridor Performance

The Prince Rupert Port Authority joined International Trade Minister **Stockwell Day** and a Canadian business delegation on a Pacific Gateway mission to Asia in mid April.

Vice President Marketing & Business Development **Shaun Stevenson** met with key shippers, manufacturers and other decision-makers in Seoul, Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya during the five-day whirlwind tour, promoting the competitive advantages of shipping their products through Canada's Pacific Gateway and the Port of Prince Rupert.



PRPA VP Marketing & Business Development Shaun Stevenson (fourth from left) with International Trade Minister Stockwell Day (eighth from left) and Canadian business delegation at Honda facility.

"The awareness of Prince Rupert as a North American gateway was surprisingly high," notes Mr. Stevenson, adding "shippers' perceptions of the performance of the Fairview Terminal and the overall northern trade corridor were very positive and confirmed we are delivering on our value proposition of offering unparalleled speed and reliability."

The Asian trade mission was the second business development initiative to Asia this year and complemented similar missions to the North American mid west coordinated by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs & International Trade to promote Canada's Pacific Gateway to shippers.

[BC Chamber of Shipping](#)

New Northern Chapter to Steer Local Industry Growth

The BC Chamber of Shipping (COS), which represents the interests of the commercial ship owners, operators and agents in British Columbia, has established a northern committee based in Prince Rupert.



PRPA Director Operations and Security **Gary Paulson**, who was elected vice chair of the new committee at the meeting chaired by COS Director David Bedwell of COSCO Container Lines, says the formation of the group reflects the growth in maritime activity on the North Coast and the recognition that a northern voice provides the local insight required for successful industry growth.

"The committee's focus is to provide solutions to issues affecting the

development of the international maritime industry in Northern BC, and to provide coordinated support for marine companies and organizations in the region."

Participants in the recent inaugural meeting also included Maher

Terminals, Prince Rupert Grain Terminal, Ridley Terminals Inc., Rio Tinto Alcan, Eurocan, Enbridge, Quickload Container Examination Facility, TNC Agencies, G.W. Nickerson and Rupert Marine.

PRPA Board of Directors Changes **Raymond Castelli Appointed Director**

Raymond Castelli has been appointed to the PRPA Board of Directors by Canada's Transport and Infrastructure Minister **John Baird** for a term of three years.

"Ports play an important role in the economic development of our country, and I am pleased that Mr. Castelli has agreed to serve on the board of directors of the Prince Rupert Port Authority," says Minister Baird. "His business experience will be an important asset to the organization."

Mr. Castelli, who was born and raised in Prince Rupert and now resides in Vancouver, brings wide-ranging experience in the public and private sectors. As an executive managing the Vancouver office of Alcan Aluminum, one of British Columbia's leading exporters to Asia, Mr. Castelli developed business opportunities in China, Japan, Hong Kong, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. Previously, he served more than six years as a senior advisor to the prime minister, as well as to the minister of Indian and Northern Affairs. Currently, he is chief executive officer for Weatherhaven, a manufacturing company exporting to more than 40 countries around the world.



Mr. Castelli sits on the board of governors of the BC Business Council and is a member of the Working Opportunity Fund. He has a bachelor's degree in business administration from Simon Fraser University and studied in the international executive program at INSEAD in Fontainebleau, France.

"The Board of Directors and the Prince Rupert Port Authority organization are looking forward to Mr. Castelli joining the board and contributing his unique set of skills and experience to the long term success of the PRPA," says PRPA Chair **Dale MacLean**.

Outgoing Director Odd Eidsvik's Service Recognised

Mr. Castelli is replacing **Odd Eidsvik**, who has completed his mandate on the Board of Directors of two terms, each consisting of three years.

"We wish to thank Odd Eidsvik, who is leaving the board after six years," says Mr. MacLean. "We greatly appreciate his hard work and dedication during a period marked by both difficult challenges and exciting opportunities for the PRPA."

Mr. Eidsvik, a chartered accountant and Prince Rupert resident, was appointed to the board in 2003 and helped chart the course when the PRPA grappled with steep declines in cargo traffic, opened the Northland



Terminal to launch Prince Rupert's cruise business, and entered a new era as a global port with the creation of the Fairview Container Terminal.

<http://www.rupertport.com>

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