



NOTICE NQ-12

Port improvement fee

Effective date

January 1, 2026

This notice is adopted and issued under the *Canada Marine Act*, Chapter 10, 46–47 Elizabeth II, 1997–1998, pursuant to the powers granted by the latter.

Port improvement fees are applicable to all Ships stopping within the Jurisdictional Boundaries of the Québec Port Authority (hereinafter referred to as the "Authority") with passengers on board, including Cruise Ships. These fees are applied, in particular, to help cover the costs of the Authority's port improvements, including shore power connections dedicated to Cruise Ships, deepening dredging, etc. The fees are paid by the Ship Owner.

1. GENERAL

- a) This notice may be cited as: **Port Improvement Fee Schedule**.
- b) The fees provided for in this notice are in addition to any other fees provided for in other notices or which may be due to the Authority contractually or otherwise.
- c) The Authority acts as an agent of His Majesty in right of Canada for the purposes of this notice.
- d) The fees provided for in this notice are binding on His Majesty in right of Canada or a province.

2. DEFINITIONS

In this notice, the term:

- a) "**Authority**" means the Québec Port Authority as defined in the *Canada Marine Act*, its letters patent issued on May 1, 1999, and its issued or upcoming supplementary letters patent;
- b) "**Jurisdictional Boundaries of the Québec Port Authority**" refers to all navigable waters and territory under the jurisdiction of the Authority as defined in the Authority's letters patent;
- c) "**Ship**" means any vessel, barge, or floating craft intended for commercial purposes;
- d) "**Cruise Ship**" means a ship that transports passengers who can sleep on board and spend at least one night in beds or berths reserved for this purpose;
- e) "**Sightseeing Vessel**" means a ship that transports passengers for an excursion lasting less than one day with no option to stay aboard overnight;
- f) "**Port**" or "**Port of Québec**" is a legal, physical, and territorial designation including any real property under the jurisdiction of the Authority as provided for in the letters patent issued on May 1, 1999, and its supplementary letters patent in accordance with the provisions of *Canada Marine Act*;
- g) "**Owner**" means the Owner of the goods or the Ship, but can also mean the shipping agent, the charter agent, the shipowner, the shipbroker, the shipowner's agent, the master of the Ship, or any other duly authorised representative;

3. SUBJECT GOODS AND SHIPS

Port improvement fees apply to Ships stopping within the Authority's Jurisdictional Boundaries with passengers. The fees are applicable to all Cruise Ships, regardless of their flag.

4. CALCULATION OF FEES

- a) Subject to Section 6 of this notice, port improvement fees are calculated according to the rates and features established and set out in Schedule 1, which forms an integral part hereof.
- b) Port improvement fees are calculated according to the number of passengers.
- c) A notice and a certificate (manifest) attesting to the number of passengers must be sent to the Authority at least 24 hours before the arrival or departure of the Ship in or from the Authority's Jurisdictional Boundaries.
- d) If the Ship Owner is unable to provide a manifest, the Authority will be justified in charging the fee according to the maximum number of passengers corresponding to the Ship's capacity.

5. ENFORCEABILITY AND PAYMENT OF FEES

- b) The fees are payable to the Authority as soon as the Ship leaves the Port and must be paid to the Authority's head office within sixty (60) days of the Ship's departure date, in legal tender prevailing in Canada.
- c) The fees are payable in accordance with the provisions set out in the Notice respecting payment terms and penalties for unpaid fees (NQ-9).

6. EXCEPTION

- a) Port improvement fees are not payable in respect of passengers on the following Ships:
 - i) Royal Canadian Warships, auxiliary ships of the Royal Canadian Navy, Ships under the command of the Canadian Armed Forces, Ships from visiting forces present in Canada within the meaning of the Visiting Forces Act, or Ships under the command of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police;
 - ii) Ships performing work for the Authority;
 - iii) Ships berthed at the Port for the purposes of safe navigation that are not engaged in commercial operations;
 - iv) Sightseeing Vessels and private non-commercial craft.