

NEWS RELEASE

Seaspan Shipyards and the Government of Canada Announce that Construction is to Begin on Joint Support Ships

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 31 May 2018

North Vancouver, BC – Seaspan Shipyards (Seaspan) and the Government of Canada are pleased to announce that work will begin soon on the Joint Support Ships (JSS) for the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN).

These purpose-built vessels will play a vital role in meeting Canada's domestic and international obligations and will fully meet the operational needs of the RCN. By starting construction on JSS, Seaspan is able to realize continuous production and ensure further progress is made on its National Shipbuilding Strategy (NSS) commitments. This move demonstrates the value of the long-term, strategic partnership established between the Government of Canada and Seaspan under the NSS.

"Seaspan Shipyards is a proud partner to the Government of Canada under the National Shipbuilding Strategy," said **Brian Carter**, President & CEO of Seaspan Shipyards. "By starting construction on the Joint Support Ships, our company is supporting the operational needs of the Royal Canadian Navy and the long-term success of Canada's shipbuilding industry."

With the Seaspan-built JSS, Canada's women and men in uniform will be able to support our nation's role in the world. These ships will deliver fuel and other vital supplies to vessels at sea, offer medical and dental services, and provide facilities for helicopter and equipment repair. JSS will be built to highest standard and with modern equipment, propulsion redundancy, a 30+ year life expectancy and the ability to stand in harm's way if required. The JSS possess the ability to support Canadian Naval Task Groups and operations with Canada's allies for both military and humanitarian missions and will be fully staffed by the RCN.

"The National Shipbuilding Strategy is helping to build a strong and sustainable shipbuilding industry in Canada, while creating jobs and generating major economic benefits from coast to coast to coast." said the Honourable **Carla Qualtrough**, PC, MP, Minister of Public Services and Procurement Canada. "With the construction of the JSS, our government is delivering on our commitment to support the men and women of the Royal Canadian Navy as they undertake humanitarian and military missions on behalf of our great country."

Canada's shipbuilding industry has been rebuilt thanks to the NSS. To date, Seaspan has \$600M in committed contracts and engaged approximately 500 Canadian firms thanks to its NSS-related work alone. At its peak, work on JSS will contribute towards sustaining an estimated 1,000 jobs at Seaspan.

The JSS will be designated the Protecteur-class in recognition of the distinguished service provided by Canada's former replenishment oilers – Her Majesty's Canadian Ships (HMCS) Protecteur and Preserver.



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ABOUT SEASPAN SHIPYARDS

With operations in North Vancouver and Victoria, Seaspan Shipyards is a leader in Canada's shipbuilding and ship repair industry. With modern facilities and a dedicated workforce, the company has proven itself to be a reliable partner on a range of complex projects for both government and the private sector.

Seaspan Shipyards is proud to be Canada's chosen non-combat shipbuilder under the National Shipbuilding Strategy (NSS). In this capacity, the company is building state-of-the-art ships in Canada for the Canadian Coast Guard and Royal Canadian Navy. Through its NSS-related work, Seaspan Shipyards is creating jobs, generating economic benefits and rebuilding Canada's shipbuilding and marine industries.

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Seaspan Shipyards

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QUICK FACTS ABOUT JSS AND THE NSS

NSS: For information on the NSS, [National Shipbuilding Strategy](#).

JSS Overview:

Her Majesty's Canadian Ships (HMCS) Protecteur and Preserver are multi-role vessels that will provide an important auxiliary function to the RCN. They increase the range and endurance of naval task groups by permitting the vessels to remain at sea for long periods of time without needing to return to port for replenishment. They represent crucial elements of Canada's blue-water naval capabilities and will allow the RCN to participate in operations with allies on military and humanitarian missions.

These vessels are designed and built to carry provisions like food, water, fuel and ammunition for other vessels, provide support ashore, and are a home base for helicopter maintenance and operations. With its enhanced defensive capabilities and a crew of 239 personnel, the JSS can also support the RCN in high threat environments ensuring our continued safety and security at home and abroad.

General:

Builder: Seaspan Shipyards

Owner: Royal Canadian Navy

Names of Ships: Her Majesty's Canadian Ships (HMCS) Protecteur and Preserver

Dimensions:

Length Overall: 173.7 m

Breadth: 24.0 m

Design Waterline/ Draft: 7.4 m

Design Displacement: 19,648 t

Power and Performance:

Max Speed: 20 knots

Cruising Speed: 15 knots

Propulsion Power: 2 x 7200kW