



PRESS RELEASE

PORT OF MONTREAL WELCOMES THE FIRST OCEAN-GOING VESSEL OF 2018

MONTREAL: January 01, 2018. The Hapag-Lloyd containership *Ottawa Express* became the first ocean-going vessel to reach the Port of Montreal without a stopover in 2018.

The *Ottawa Express* under the command of Captain Rakesh Kumar, represented in Montreal by the Robert Reford Agency, left the Port of Liverpool, UK on December 21 and docked late January 01 at Cast Terminal Berth 77 operated by Montreal Gateway Terminals Partnership.

On January 03, as part of an official ceremony, Captain Kumar will receive the Gold-Headed Cane, a trophy awarded each year to the Master of the first ocean-going vessel to reach the Port of Montreal without a stopover. This ceremony will mark the 179th anniversary of this great tradition in the shipping community.

Operated by the Montreal Port Authority (MPA), the Port of Montreal is the second largest port in Canada and a diversified transshipment center that handles all types of

goods: containerized and non-containerized cargo, liquid bulk and dry bulk.

It is a leading container port served by the largest shipping lines in the world. The Port of Montreal has its own rail network directly dockside and is connected to the two national rail networks. The MPA also operates a Cruise Terminal and a Port Center.

The MPA factors economic, social and environmental components into its corporate initiatives. This commitment is governed by a sustainable development policy whose guiding principles focus on involvement, cooperation and accountability. Port activity supports 16,000 jobs and generates \$2.1 billion in economic benefits annually