

Announcement of the Retirement of Joy Thomson **CMSG National Secretary-Treasurer – June 2024**

After a very distinguished career in the maritime industry, Joy Thomson retired from the position of National Secretary Treasurer of the Canadian Merchant Service Guild on June 1st, 2024. Joy worked diligently and tirelessly on behalf of Guild Members for over 20 years; first as a Business Agent in our Vancouver office prior to moving to Ottawa in 2007. Joy is a graduate of the Canadian Coast Guard College and holds a First-Class Chief Engineer's Certificate of Competency. She held senior positions at a number of private-sector employers prior to her career with the Guild. Joy represented Guild members on many important Boards and Committees and was an enthusiastic and passionate advocate for improving safety and the working lives of Ships' Officers across the country. Guild members and staff and her colleagues in the maritime community who had the privilege of working with Joy, will miss her immensely.

The Guild is pleased to announce that the National Executive Board has appointed Bernard Talbot, our Manager of Labour Relations to the position of CMSG National Secretary-Treasurer. Bernard has extensive experience in the industry, including as a seafarer himself, as well as in shore-side maritime positions, and has had a very effective tenure as a highly-motivated Guild staff member. Bernard's responsibilities have included Guild oversight of the corporate employment relations with our largest private-sector employers, as well as significant roles in matters related to the Government Ships' Officers contract which is applicable to over 1400 Guild members. We look forward to the enthusiasm and experience Bernard brings to his new position.

While Joy has retired from the Guild, and is looking forward to moving back to Western Canada to be nearer to family, and to finally having a little more time for leisure activities, she will continue in her role as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Canadian Marine Pilots' Association (CMPA). This is a very positive development as the CMPA and the Guild work very closely on numerous matters, so we are looking forward to the continuity that this new arrangement provides, and the opportunity to be able to stay in close contact with Joy.