



U.S Department
of Transportation

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Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation

March 15, 2016

MEDIA EVENT INVITATION

ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY OPENING CEREMONY MARCH 21st IN ST. CATHARINES
Shipping Season to Open Two Weeks Earlier – And Ice Free

You are invited to attend the opening ceremony for the St. Lawrence Seaway’s 58th navigation season. Betty Sutton, Administrator of the U.S. Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, and Terence Bowles, CEO of The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation will kick off the official opening ceremony in St. Catharines, Ontario on Monday, March 21, 2016. Allister Paterson, President of Canada Steamship Lines, whose state-of-the-art Trillium-class vessel *Thunder Bay* will be the first ship of the season, will serve as the keynote speaker. Other speakers include Francois Allard, Director Marine Distribution for K + S Windsor Salt Ltd., whose salt is the first cargo and who will be discussing the importance of the Seaway. **Speakers will be available for media interviews and photos following the ceremony.**

WHAT:	Official opening of the 2016 navigation season
WHO:	- Betty Sutton, Administrator, U.S. Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation - Terence Bowles, President and CEO, St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation - Allister Paterson , President of Canada Steamship Lines - Francois Allard, Director Marine Distribution, K + S Windsor Salt Ltd.
WHERE:	St. Catharines Museum, 1932 Welland Canals Pkwy., St. Catharines, ON L2R 7K6
WHEN:	Monday, March 21st, 2016 09:55 AM – Media arrival 10:00 AM – Speeches and Top Hat ceremony 11:00 AM – Interviews and photo opportunities of the first ship of the season

IMPORTANT: Please RSVP attendance to Nancy Alcalde at 202-366-0091 or nancy.alcalde@dot.gov

About the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC)

The SLSDC is a wholly owned government corporation created by statute to construct, operate and maintain that part of the St. Lawrence Seaway between the Port of Montreal and Lake Erie, within the territorial limits of the United States. Its mission is to serve the U.S. intermodal and international transportation system by improving the operation and maintenance of a safe, reliable, efficient, and environmentally responsible deep-draft waterway, in cooperation with its Canadian counterpart. The SLSDC also encourages the development of trade through the Great Lakes-Seaway System, which contributes to the comprehensive economic and environmental development of the entire Great Lakes region.