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To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
Date: 11/17/2021 5:57:31 PM
Subject: [Barge update - Wed, Nov 17](#)

Good evening Mayor and Council,

Please see below the latest update from Taryn Scollard. Please do not hesitate to contact Lon or Taryn if you have any questions.

Latest developments

- Engineering and VEMA met with representatives from Transport Canada, Coast Guard (Vessels of Concern Team) and Port. I was pleased to see the escalated nature of their attendees including Managers and those with local context. This gave us more comfort, compared to the conversations at the staff level.
- Transport Canada (TC) has directed the Owner to provide a recovery/refloat plan for the grounded barge and next steps to ensure the safety on water, positive-stability refloat, and protection of the environment. CoV requested to add in on site security to ensure the public are not climbing onboard, etc. We are waiting on a response.
- TC confirmed there is no confined space concerns if people get on the barge (had been a VPD OH&S concern), slip and fall and general vandalism still a risk without monitoring
- We now understand there is a hole in one compartment of the barge (water side) and it had taken on some water – which they believe hampered the removal efforts yesterday. Welders on site tonight and following repairs will be looking to pump out the vessel
- Confirmed that TC has the authority to take over salvage efforts should the owner not be able or willing and proceed with cost recovery from owner and appears willing to do so if that is required.
- No attempt for removal was proposed today as high tide was lower than yesterday's high tide
- TC confirmed there is nothing on the vessel for people to steal (like the smaller sail boats that wash ashore)
- TC is expecting the required removal plan from the owner this evening and will share details with CoV
- Media relations is shifting to Transport Canada

Next steps

- Agreements to keep core group from the call this morning informed during process
- Owner is aiming for Sunday, November 21 high tide of 15.3' (0753 AM PST) to refloat. This is both for high tide and tug availability. He indicated that he would be employing more than one tug on this job
 - Once refloat has been successful and the barge stabilized, TC will allow the barge to proceed for repairs and their Domestic section will follow up with Owner for surveyor report and/or send a Marine Safety Inspector onsite to ensure the vessel is fit for service.
- Unlike last time:
 - TC and Coast Guard will assist with a safety parameter on the water for passing vessels
 - A larger area on land will need to be roped off for safety (1.5x the length of the tow rope). This was a major learning for us today in an effort to eliminate the risk of decapitation should the tow line snap and recoil
- Failing a removal Nov 21st the highest tides upcoming are the weekend of December 3rd-5th

Best,
Paul

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