

PRESS RELEASE

Notice to all media

For immediate release

Royal Visit to the Port of Quebec

Quebec City, October 1, 2009 – After rolling out the red carpet for the majestic liner Queen Mary II a little over five years ago, this October 4 and 5 the Port of Québec will have the honor of welcoming the latest vessel of the renowned Cunard cruise ship line for the first time since its launch—the Queen Victoria.

Construction on the Queen Victoria started in 2005, and the ship was launched in 2007, making her the fleet's youngest active member. She has a gross tonnage of over 90,000 tons and is nearly 300 meters long.

The Port of Québec has been welcoming Cunard transatlantic cruise ships for years, including the Queen Elizabeth II in the 1970s and other vessels even earlier. In 2004 Quebec City was the first Canadian port of call of the Cunard liner Queen Mary II. "The Port of Quebec is delighted to see this new member of the Cunard fleet visiting Quebec City," noted QPA President and CEO Ross Gaudreault.

The Queen Victoria is due to arrive at 9:00 a.m. on October 4 at the Canadian Coastguard pier. "As the Crown Princess will be moored at the cruise ship terminal, it will be impossible for the Queen Victoria to dock at Pointe-à-Carcy. Instead of viewing the ship at Pointe-à-Carcy, the public can admire her from Dufferin Terrace," added Ross Gaudreault.

The Queen Victoria's voyage started in Southampton in the United Kingdom 17 days ago. Once in Quebec City, the 3,000 passengers and crew members will

have Sunday and Monday to explore the city's tourist attractions before the ship's departure at 5:00 p.m. on October 5. The Queen Victoria will stop in St. John's, Newfoundland, before making its return voyage to Southampton, thus ending an exceptional 25 day cruise.

Quebec's international cruise industry generates direct economic spinoffs of nearly \$80 million, with each passenger spending daily an average of \$118 per port of call. The province recorded its best cruise season ever in 2008, with some 150,000 passengers visiting nine ports of call along the St. Lawrence River.

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