

Corner Brook Port Corporation P.O. Box 1165, 61 Riverside Drive Corner Brook, NL Canada A2H 6T2

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 22, 2019

## First Cruise Ship of Season Scheduled to Arrive Friday, May 31

CORNER BROOK – On Friday, May 31, the Port of Corner Brook will welcome the first cruise ship of the 2019 season. The Saga Sapphire is scheduled to arrive in port at 8 a.m. and will depart at 5 p.m. The Saga Sapphire, which has capacity for 600 passengers and 380 crew, will be the first of 20 port calls scheduled for the Corner Brook this year. The vessel, operated by UK company Saga Cruises, will visit Corner Brook as part of a month long round-trip "Emerging Canada" itinerary departing from Dover, UK on May 13. Once it departs from Corner Brook, the Saga Sapphire will spend a day at sea and then call on Halifax, NS before heading back across the Atlantic Ocean, arriving back in Dover on June 12.

Corner Brook Port Corporation is expecting its busiest cruise season on record with a total of 20 port calls by 15 different ships. Total visitation is estimated at 30,000 passengers and 12,500 crew. AIDAvita (AIDA Cruises) and Queen Mary 2 (Cunard Line) will each visit three times, while the Zuiderdam (Holland America Line) will call twice. Other ships scheduled to visit include: Albatross and Amadea (Phoenix Reisen), Aurora and Arcadia (P&O Cruises), Silver Wind (Silversea Cruises), Mein Schiff 1 (TUI Cruises), Marco Polo (Cruise & Maritime Voyages), Seven Seas Navigator (Regent Seven Seas Cruises), Hamburg (Plantours) and Norwegian Dawn (Norwegian Cruise Line). Vessels making inaugural calls include Zuiderdam, Hamburg and Mein Schiff 1. The largest vessel to ever visit Newfoundland and Labrador, MSC Meraviglia, will close out the season with its inaugural call to Corner Brook on October 11. The vessel will be carrying over 4,500 passengers and 1,500 crew.

As in previous years, the majority of the ships are scheduled to call during September and October. Cruise ship visitation is an important component of the region's tourism industry, generating business for local tour operators, transportation companies, attractions, restaurants and retailers. This year's cruise visits are expected to generate over \$4 million in direct spending to the local economy.

A complete 2019 cruise ship schedule can be found at <u>www.cornerbrookport.com</u>.

-30-

For additional information, contact: Nora Fever, Business Development Manager T: (709) 634-6600 | E: <u>nfever@cornerbrookport.com</u>