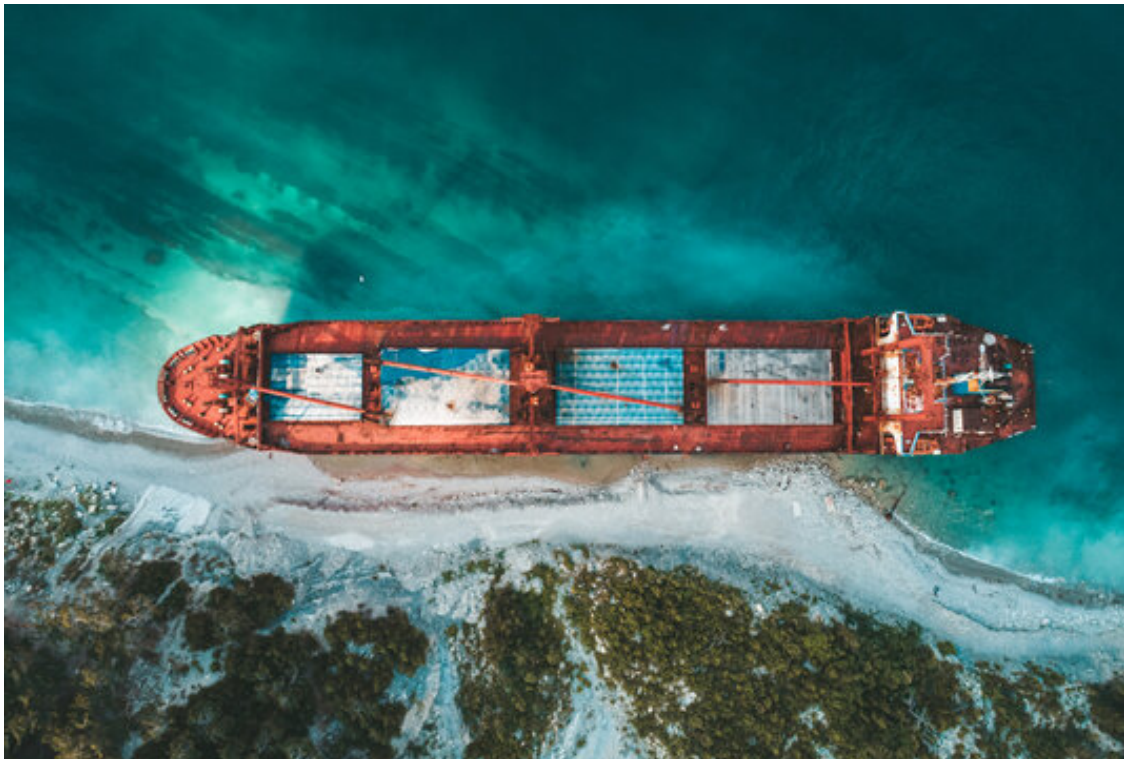


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CANADA

ICS Canada Winter 2025 Newsletter



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ICS Canada Chair's Introduction



2024 was a fantastic year for ICS Canada and I would like to take this moment to congratulate the Board for all their efforts.

We ran more events than ever before on both sides of this Continent; we opened a new ICS Chapter in Saskatoon, we launched a Student Grant program, and our 10th Annual Dry Bulk and Commodities Conference was a resounding success,

two day training session in Vancouver and the ICS will host a shipping career incubator at SFU.

Alongside our educational programs promoting professionalism through qualifications in the maritime industry, the ICS Canada continues to work to connect aspiring maritime professionals with the industry.

This year we aim to reach a wider audience than just Dry Bulk - and we have Lunch speakers lined up from the Liner and LNG industries who will be presenting over the coming months. And on the organisational side the ICS Canada will also be rolling out a new website this year to improve our

attracting maritime professionals from around the world, with both the Presidents of ICS and BIMCO sharing the podium with a fantastic line up of speakers spanning the industry.

Building on 2024's success, we have an even more ambitious agenda for 2025 to bring together the Canadian maritime industry, at a time when discussions with our neighbours south of the border, as well as operating in an increasingly fragmented geopolitical world, make networking and regular discourse more important than ever.

2025 has indeed started busily with events on both Coasts over the last two weeks, and and at the end of March BIMCO will host a

communication with existing members and new industry entrants.

Mark your calendars for November 6th to ensure you don't miss out on ICS Canada's 11th Annual Dry Bulk and Commodities Conference, which already promises to be our best yet.

Read on for more info on each of these initiatives. We look forward to another year of growth, innovation, and collaboration within the maritime community.



Hugo Brent
ICS Canada Chair 2024/5

ICS Canada is pleased to have launched our new initiative, the ICS Canada Student Grant in the Fall of 2024, sponsoring students' participation in the ICS Online Academy for the course of their choosing. As any past ICS student will be aware, students typically prepare for the ICS exams by way of self-study. The Online Academy was developed by the ICS to provide a structured program to support students' studies and help them excel in their exams.

This year's Grant recipients are Vanessa Hsu and Natalia Orozco. Ryan Hilliard also received financial sponsorship for the

ICS Canada Student Grant



We look forward to providing the opportunity to our students to benefit from the value the Online Academy has to offer. Anyone with questions regarding the Grant, the Online Academy, or studying with the ICS is

Introduction to Shipping exam enrolment, to help kickstart their ICS education. Congratulations to all the recipients!

encouraged to reach out to the Student Liaison - Shelby Raeburn at: student_liaison@ics-canada.ca.

The Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers Educational Fund

A note for our students and members - the ICS Canada Student Grant is a Canadian initiative and only open to Canadian members.

This is completely separate from ICS Educational Fund, which is means tested, and which offers financial support via ICS Head Office in London to applicants who can prove they are in need of financial assistance. Any students who may be interested to make an application to the ICS Educational Fund can review the full application guidelines using this link:

[Educational Fund Guidelines](#)

ICS Canada - Voyage Chartering Essentials

November 20th 2024



A day prior to the conference in November, the ICS Canada hosted a Voyage Chartering Course, delivered by Punit Oza, Chair of the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers, and Luis Bernat, ICS International Chair, and it was a resounding success. Held in Vancouver the course attracted an audience from across Canada.

Throughout the full day of teaching, attendees learned the basics of chartering, including both common and less obvious pitfalls to avoid. The course also featured breakout workshops where participants engaged in discussions and applied principles using case studies. This interactive approach ensured a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter, making the course both informative and engaging.

10th Annual Dry Bulk & Commodities Conference

November 21st 2024



ICS Canada celebrated its 10th annual year presenting the Dry Bulk & Commodities Conference. Now a cornerstone of the Vancouver Maritime Industry's calendar, this momentous event featured engaging presentations and innovative topics that expanded the vision of the Dry Bulk Conference. The Conference welcomed delegates from across the globe, representing a diverse range of industries and sectors.

ICS Canada is pleased to note that the conference achieved several notable milestones, including:

- Increased attendance by over 20%
- A new presentation format providing dynamic presentations followed by panel discussions with every speaker
- An all-time high in sponsorship was reached, supporting the ICS Canada initiatives throughout the year

ICS Canada would like to thank all the sponsors, speakers and attendees for their continued support of this Conference and for helping it grow in scope and success each year.

The 11th Annual Dry Bulk & Commodities Conference is set for Thursday, November 6, 2025 in the Vancouver Trade and Convention Centre West building.

10th Annual Dry Bulk & Commodities Conference Presentations

ICS Canada Gala Dinner

November 20th 2024

Having been postponed from 2021 - the ICS Canada hosted a Gala Dinner on November 20th at the Terminal City Club to recognise the Centenary of the Royal Charter of the Institute granted in 1921, and to celebrate those individuals who have been pivotal in the growth



Chair, to speak a few words about the Institute's international presence and reputation. The dinner also presented an opportunity to thank

of ICS Canada since its creation as the first overseas branch.

The event welcomed ICS members from across Canada, as well as Senior officers from the ICS in Singapore and Europe. We were privileged to have Luis Bernat, International

long-term supported of the ICS and enabled a fun networking event for all.

The evening was extremely jolly and enjoyed by all in attendance.

Shipping Pub Night in Montreal

February 27th, 2025



ICS joined together with fellow shipping associations Grunt Club, Youth of Shipping (YOS) and Women's International Shipping & Trading Association (WISTA) to host a shipping industry pub night in Montreal on Thu, February 27th 2025.

The event was held at Hurley's Irish Pub on the 2nd floor and some 70 shipping professionals attended including representatives of Fednav, Canada Steamship Lines (CSL), York Overseas/AgroHall, Rio Tinto Marine, Grainica, Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), Montship/Allied Trucking, Montreal Marine Services, Quebec Stevedoring Company Ltd (QSL), Groupe Ocean, Brisset Bishop, Borden Ladner Gervais (BLG), DS Avocats, Shipowners' Assurance, Marsh, Aon, True North Marine, ABL and the Port of Montreal. We also had many students!



Special thanks to sponsors Canada Steamship Lines (CSL), Borden Ladener Gervais (BLG), Marsh, DS Avocats and Shipowners Assurance for supporting the event!!

ICS Canada Spring Lunch & Learn

“AI Modelling in the Maritime Space”

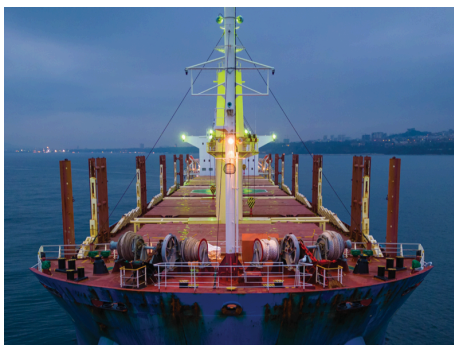
6 March 2025

On March 6, Dr. Payman Eslami and Dr. Mehdi Hazrati from Soshianest delivered an insightful lunchtime presentation on the history and evolution of AI. They explained how advancements in AI modeling have significantly improved accuracy and reliability. The presentation highlighted the transformative potential of AI in the maritime industry, emphasizing how these technological advancements will enhance operational efficiency and decision-making processes. Dr. Eslami and Dr. Hazrati outlined a roadmap for the gradual adoption of AI in maritime operations, showcasing



real-world examples and future projections. The session underscored the importance of embracing AI to stay competitive and innovative in the rapidly evolving maritime sector.

Upcoming Maritime Events



BIMCO:

Voyage Charters Masterclass

March 20/21 2025 (Vancouver)

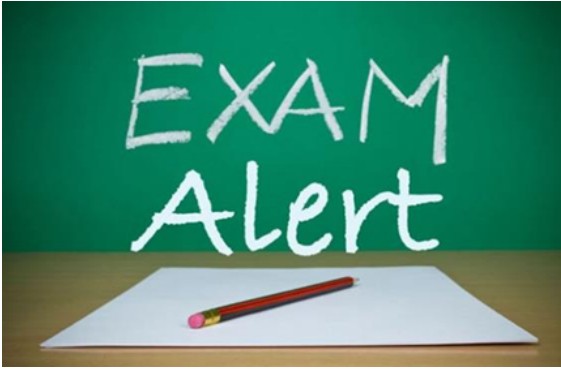
Maritime Industry Fair

March 27th 2025 (Vancouver)

11th Annual Dry Bulk Conference

November 6th 2025 (Vancouver)

ICS Education Information



The 2024/2025 academic year is ongoing, with the next exam session scheduled for May 12-22, 2025. The deadline for registration is April 10, 2025.

Support your ICS by broadening our network and sharing with anyone in your circle who would benefit!

Please refer interested or querying individuals to the ICS Canada Student Liaison at student_liaison@ics-canada.ca to discuss further education options with the ICS.

Please note however the ICS Online Academy currently offers courses annually from January-May.

ICS Online Academy

Obituary - Hans Stoger (Stoger Chartering - Montreal)

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Hans Stoger, MICS in June 2024 in Montreal. Hans was a shipbroker at Gibson Canadian & Global and later set up his own shop Stoger Chartering. He had been a regular contributor and attendee at ICS Canada events so wanted to share below with ICS Members with whom he may have crossed paths:

Hans' Obituary in the Montreal Gazette:

"It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Hans Richard Stoger on Saturday June 8th, 2024 at the Lakeshore General Hospital.

Hans Stoger was born in Hamburg, Germany and immigrated to Canada in 1961. He settled in Montreal and married Lorna Warmen in 1970. They were happily married for 31 years until her death in 2001. His career as a shipbroker was a true calling as he happily worked up until his final days. He never stopped learning, managing to fit in night school at McGill University while continuing to work full time. He was a devoted member of Cedar Park United Church for over 50 years. He will be greatly missed by his 3 daughters; Kirsten, Anne, and Emily, his 4 grandchildren and his 2 son in laws as well as his friends and business associates around the world. We are very grateful to the staff at Saint Anne's Hospital and the Lakeshore General where he received great and compassionate care."

<https://montrealgazette.remembering.ca/obituary/hans-stoger-1089954322>

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/en-ca/obituaries/pointe-claire-qc/hans-richard-stoger-11853247>

Student Insights from the 2024 Dry Bulk and Commodities Conference

ICS Canada and our sponsors supported a group of students taking a Maritime and International Transportation course at UBC to attend the conference. This provided the students an opportunity to engage with the ICS professional network, inviting them to learn about career opportunities in the industry, as well as relevant issues facing maritime transportation. Read on to learn about their experience attending the conference.

Philip Shi, UBC Sauder School of Business - Business Technology Management, Operations and Logistics

Attending the ICS Conference was an incredible learning opportunity. It provided me with valuable insights into maritime transportation as a new graduate interested to enter the field.

During the conference, I had the opportunity to hear from multiple speakers and engage in discussions. The topics ranged from key development trends in maritime transportation to the impact of geopolitics on global trade flows. These discussions allowed me to better understand the intricate dynamics of the industry.

Most importantly, I had the chance to connect with experienced maritime professionals from around the world, many of whom were visiting Vancouver for the first time. Learning from their experiences and perspectives was truly invaluable.

I am very grateful to the ICS team for hosting such an insightful event and for giving me the opportunity to be a part of it.

Pinky Tin San, UBC Sauder School of Business - Operations and Logistics

2024, and 10th anniversary was definitely another eye-opening year, filled with valuable takeaways and new perspectives. Many fascinating topics such as how much detail it goes to transporting valuable material such as gold, Vancouver's port infrastructure its current development as well its limit and challenges, and everyone's favorite topic: decarbonization and sustainability.

The biggest takeaway for me from the 10th anniversary was realizing that sometimes the solutions to current challenges lie in readily available resources. While lowering greenhouse emissions can be costly, regular maintenance and care of vessels offer a practical solution. We often overlook the potential of existing systems because we're constantly searching for new solutions. It's a reminder that there are no shortcuts—sustainable progress requires consistent effort.

Looking ahead to this year, I'm particularly interested in exploring the effects of increasing global unrest on the shipping industry. With changing geopolitical dynamics, there could be opportunities as well as challenges. The unpredictable nature of global markets and extreme environmental conditions effects are things I will continue to closely monitor, as they have the potential to drastically alter the landscape of shipping and logistics.

Much like last year, sharing the space with so many global experts were an enriching experience. I am very grateful to reconnect with last year's participants and meet new faces. A big thank you to everyone who took the time to answer my questions and share their experiences!

Spiros Tsolinas, UBC Sauder School of Business – Operations and Logistics

Attending the 10th Annual Dry Bulk and Commodities Conference was a great opportunity to step outside the classroom and gain real insight into the shipping industry. I expected a lot of technical discussions, but what stood out most was how much uncertainty industry professionals deal with every day, whether it is fuel prices, geopolitical instability, or shifting regulations. Questions were encouraged, and speakers did not shy away from difficult topics during the question period. It was refreshing to see real dialogue between industry leaders and attendees rather than just prepared speeches. One topic that stood out to me was the presentation on the myths and realities surrounding decarbonization by Susana Germino. I found it particularly interesting because it showed the gap between ambition and reality when it comes to making shipping more sustainable. Companies clearly want to move toward greener options, but the costs, infrastructure challenges, and regulatory inconsistencies make it difficult. It was eye-opening to hear people at the center of these changes talk candidly about what is working and what is not.

Another thing that stood out to me was the range of topics covered. The discussions went far beyond shipping, touching on everything from commodities and fuel markets to marine traffic management and geopolitical risks. It was eye-opening to see how deeply connected these issues are and how a single change, whether in environmental policy, international trade agreements, or even regional conflicts, can send ripple effects across the entire industry. The conversations highlighted how unpredictable global trade can be and how professionals have to constantly adapt to shifting regulations, supply chain disruptions, and economic pressures. The conference reinforced that shipping is not just about moving cargo from one place to another, but rather a constantly evolving puzzle influenced by economics, politics, and environmental policies. Overall, the conference was a fantastic learning experience that helped me see the industry in a new way and made me more interested in the people and decisions behind global trade.

Please use the button below to follow ICS Canada on LinkedIn for regular updates of news and events:



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