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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Goderich Port Expansion Project Receives Approval to Move Forward

GODERICH, Ontario (Dec. 16, 2014) – The Goderich Port Management Corporation (GPMC) received approval of the Environmental Assessment submitted for the proposed Goderich harbor wharf expansion.

“We’re pleased with the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change’s decision to approve the Environmental Assessment,” said Rowland Howe, GPMC president. “A great deal of work went into preparing the package that was submitted for review and the approval is a major milestone that allows us to move into the construction phase.”

The Port of Goderich is the only deepwater port on the east shore of Lake Huron. Servicing regional mining, manufacturing and agricultural industries, the Port is an important hub of commercial shipping in southwestern Ontario.

Approximately 250 ships dock within the Port of Goderich annually, loading and delivering commodities such as salt, grain and calcium chloride. Currently, the Port is unable to accommodate new users who wish to bring in other commodities such as aggregates, due to limited storage space. In addition to limited loading/unloading and storage space, there are issues with the configuration of the existing harbour. In 2006, a Harbour Rehabilitation Master Plan identified problems with sediment deposition and exposure to wind and wave action in the Harbour.

The proposed wharf expansion is multi-purposed and includes:

- provision of additional loading/unloading space for ships;
- provision of additional storage space of salt, as well as other commodities; and
- structural improvements to the break walls and piers that will offer improved wave protection.

“The announcement of the Environmental Assessment Approval for the Goderich Port is great news for the Town of Goderich,” said Goderich Mayor, Kevin Morrison. “This is a major project milestone and a significant step toward the expansion of the port facilities. The construction phase over the next two to three years will provide employment and will be a positive effect on the economy of Goderich and the surrounding area. The prospect of new uses in the Port once the project is completed is welcomed news for our community.

The project has partial funding in place from the Province of Ontario and now requires a financial review of the defined construction costs to ensure that the investment still makes economic sense for the project investors. With that in place construction can begin as early as March next year.

The Port of Goderich is owned by the Town of Goderich and administration of the Port is overseen by the Goderich Port Management Corporation.

About GPMC

<http://goderichport.ca>

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