



## Legislative Committee Bulletin

### Update on Wrecked, Abandoned and Hazardous Vessels Act

On April 30, 2019, Canada acceded to the *Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007* (<http://www.imo.org/en/About/Conventions/ListOfConventions/Pages/Nairobi-International-Convention-on-the-Removal-of-Wrecks.aspx>).

It will come into force in Canada on July 30, 2019 as part of the *Wrecked, Abandoned and Hazardous Vessels Act* (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/W-12.3/index.html>).

#### **New requirements for vessel owners**

The Wreck Removal Convention makes vessel owners strictly liable for the costs of locating, marking and removing a hazardous wreck.

All vessels of 300 gross tonnage or more that are registered in Canada or calling at ports and terminals in Canada (including inland waterways), Canada's territorial sea and exclusive economic zone will be required to:

- carry wreck removal insurance, or
- provide other financial security to cover the costs of removing the wreck

Vessel owners will need to carry a government-issued certificate, per Article 12 of the Convention, which can be obtain through Transport Canada.

Insurers will be required to issue evidence of insurance in the form of a 'Blue Card'. The Blue Card needs to include the following information:

- Name of Ship
- Distinctive Number or Letters
- IMO Number (Bunkers Convention Certificates only)
- Flag and Port of Registry
- Gross Tonnage
- Name and Address of Owner
- Name and Address of Insurer
- Type of Security
- Duration of Security

For more information, please see the Government issued Ship Safety Bulletin that outlines the new insurance requirements for vessels under the

Convention: <http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/bulletins-2019-08-eng.htm>

**Keeley Wylie**

CBMU Legislative Committee Chair

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