

## TIMELINE ON THE SEAWAY

**1783**

The Royal Army Engineers completes the first shallow canals along the St. Lawrence River.

**1855**

A lock is built at Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.



**1932**

The fourth version of the Welland Canal, linking Lake Ontario and Lake Erie, is completed.

**1954**

Parliament establishes the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority. Its mandate: Acquire lands and oversee the building and operation of the waterway.

**1959**

June 26, 1959: Queen Elizabeth II, Canadian Prime Minister John Diefenbaker and U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower attend the official opening.



**1996**

Two billion tonnes of cargo has passed through the seaway since 1959.

**2009**

The St. Lawrence Seaway marks its 50th anniversary.

ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY  
VOIE MARITIME DU SAINT-LAURENT



**1680**

Dollier de Casson, the superior at a Montreal seminary, begins new efforts to build a canal to bypass the Lachine Rapids.

**1829**

The first Welland Canal opens for a trial run, and on Nov. 30 the schooner Ann and Jane becomes the first vessel to transit the canal.

**1900**

A system of shallow canals is in place between Lake Superior and Montreal.



**1949**

The need for an improved St. Lawrence River trade route leads to the Canadian-U.S. Deep Waterways Commission.

**1959**

April, 1959: The St. Lawrence Seaway is opened for commercial traffic.



**1977**

Annual cargo between Montreal and Lake Ontario is roughly 58 million tonnes.

**2004**

The seaway is also known as Highway H<sub>2</sub>O.