



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **True North Marine (TNM) Helps Mercy Ships Plot a Course of Hope and Healing**

**Victoria and Montreal Canada, November 19, 2021** -TNM is proud to provide weather routing support for *the Global Mercy* in her mission to provide hope and health to people in great need in developing countries.

Mercy Ships launched their newest hospital ship, the *Global Mercy*, in the summer of 2021 to great anticipation. True North Marine is proud to provide vessel weather routing assistance for the vessel's journey from her shipyard in China to Antwerp (where she will have hospital equipment and IT systems installed).

The *Global Mercy* was designed by Stena RoRo and, once in operation in 2022, will be the first purpose-built vessel operated by Mercy Ships and the largest civilian hospital ship in the world. Joining her sister ship, the *Africa Mercy*, the *Global Mercy* will extend the reach and impact of Mercy Ships for the next 50 years.

Brian Hatter, the President of TNM, stated, "his team championed Mercy for the last year as part of our commitment to corporate social responsibility and service (CSR). So when we heard that the *Global Mercy* was nearing her launch date, we were thrilled to have the opportunity to support our CSR partner by doing what we do best; providing weather routing support and advisement".

Throughout her voyage, international support for the *Global Mercy* was on full display. The governments of Egypt and Senegal facilitated the passage of the *Global Mercy* through the Suez Canal at no cost to the charity. The port of Antwerp similarly provided a free berth and support for the vessel upon her arrival.

When routing the hospital ship, the factors TNM took into consideration were similar to those we usually take into account. Two of True North Marine's analysts Daniyal Pouyan Rad and Luana Mendes exemplified the collaborative approach and commitment to the safety of the crew is always being of paramount concern. In practice, this means they help provided the Captain with detailed information as requested and ensuring they're provided with forecasts covering a range of possible routes and sailing speeds to make an informed decision. Optimizing a vessel's route is always important, no less so for the *Global Mercy*. Keeping fuel consumption to a minimum is a significant step for reducing the environmental impact of navigating and reducing fuel costs as a practical way to help Mercy Ships save lives and deliver care over the long run.

While Mercy Ship's hospital ships typically remain at port for extended stays as a platform for providing medical services, TNM will be standing by to offer their services as needed. Giving back is one of TNM's core values, and we are proud to support Mercy Ships in whatever ways possible.

Darryl Anderson, Executive Director of Mercy Ships Canada, commented observed that in early 2022, thanks to an invitation from Senegal's government and the Ministry of Health, Mercy Ships will sail to Dakar, Senegal, for our next field service. Having the *Africa Mercy* once again in the port city of Dakar will strengthen Mercy Ships' ongoing work in Africa. "Private sector support like that provide by Montreal-based True North Marine, government support and individual volunteers and donors is essential for the work of Mercy Ships. We are humbled and grateful for the contribution of everyone involved."

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**For more information, contact:**

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### **About Mercy Ships Canada**

Mercy Ships Canada is one of 16 National Offices mandated to raise funds, awareness, identify and implement projects and recruit volunteers for the programs of Mercy Ships internationally. Mercy Ships operates the largest non-governmental hospital ship in the world, providing humanitarian assistance including free life-changing surgeries and health care, training and mentoring of local healthcare professionals, and capital projects to renovate local health facilities, so communities have sustainable healthcare after Mercy Ships departs. Information on Mercy Ships Canada can be found at [www.mercyships.ca](http://www.mercyships.ca).

### **About True North Marine**

Headquartered in Montreal, True North Marine is a consultancy dedicated to assisting bulk vessel operators ensure that their voyages are undertaken in the most safe and cost effective manner. <https://tnmservices.com>

