

**PORT OF SEATTLE**  
**MEMORANDUM**

**COMMISSION AGENDA**  
**STAFF BRIEFING**

<b>Item No.</b>	3a
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	May 12, 2015

**DATE:** April 22, 2015  
**TO:** Ted Fick, Chief Executive Officer  
**FROM:** Michael McLaughlin, Director Cruise & Maritime Operations  
**SUBJECT:** 2015 Cruise Season

**SYNOPSIS**

The 2015 cruise season kicked off on Saturday, May 2 with the arrival of Holland America's *Westerdam* to Smith Cove Cruise Terminal at Terminal 91. This year, Seattle will serve an estimated 192 cruise vessel arrivals and we are expecting close to 900,000 passengers to be processed through our cruise terminals; nearly a 9% increase in passengers.

The 2015 cruise season will showcase five new ships including Holland America Line's new 14-day itinerary on board the *Statendam*. New and larger vessels for 2015 reaffirm the cruise line's confidence in the strength of the Alaska market and in Seattle's commitment to the cruise industry. These premier vessels include Royal Caribbean's *Jewel of the Seas*, the *Carnival Legend* and the *Ruby Princess* and *Crown Princess*. Three of our new homeport ships have capacity for an additional 500 passengers each. To enhance the benefits the cruise industry provides to the region, the Port of Seattle continues to partner with our cruise line customers, Visit Seattle and other industry and tourism stakeholders to promote pre and post cruise stays that boost the economic impact of the cruise industry.

**BACKGROUND**

Cruise operations for the 2015 cruise season at the Port of Seattle are estimate to create the following economic impacts:

- \$441 million – annual business revenue
- 3,647 jobs
- \$17.2 million – annual state & local taxes
- ❖ Each time a homeport ship docks it contributes \$2.5 million to the local economy.

**ATTACHMENTS TO THIS BRIEFING**

- PowerPoint slide presentation

**PREVIOUS COMMISSION ACTIONS OR BRIEFINGS**

- May 6, 2015 - Seaport Presentations: Maritime Festival and Opening of Cruise Season