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Beaufort Gyre Exploration Project: Dispatch 1: Coronation Gulf

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Today has been a flurry of activity as we prepare to set out on this year's cruise. The new science party and relief crew have all joined our ship and new home, the *CCGS Louis S. St-Laurent* in Kugluktuk, Nunavut.

We are all busy making final preparations in port before we depart for the Canada Basin. We not only need to bring out of storage, set up and test our science gear, but also prepare for life aboard the ship – safety briefing is a primary concern for the first day. It's very important to have everyone not just familiar with safety equipment and procedures but to rehearse emergency scenarios. Another big task for the day, especially for those new to the ship, is to figure out the layout of the ship: lab space, bridge, cabins, laundry, galley… the ship can be quite a maze inside until we've gotten lost in the corridors a few times.

Once we have completed all the orientation and familiarization, we'll be able to set sail towards the Canada Basin and begin our science operations. This year mission will be 32 days, returning to Kugluktuk on September 2nd.

Happy sailing and happy science!

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