

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF THE AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY**

Between the Governments of:

NEW BRUNSWICK ("New Brunswick"), as represented by the Minister of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries;

and

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ("Prince Edward Island"), as represented by the Minister of Fisheries and Communities;

and

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR ("Newfoundland and Labrador"), as represented by the Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture and the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs;

and

NOVA SCOTIA ("Nova Scotia"), as represented by the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture;

Hereinafter designated as the Parties.

WHEREAS aquaculture is a farming activity and a legitimate and valuable use of aquatic resources; and

WHEREAS aquaculture is an environmentally sustainable and responsible means of food production; and

WHEREAS the aquaculture industry has considerable growth potential in Atlantic Canada given its natural aquatic advantages, increasing consumer demand, and the level of expertise acquired by industry, government, and the research community; and

WHEREAS the aquaculture industry represents a significant opportunity to create employment and wealth, particularly in rural communities; and

WHEREAS the Parties seek to enhance public trust and investor confidence in the aquaculture sector; and

WHEREAS the Atlantic Provinces have a history of cooperation and a common interest with respect to fostering the sustainable development of the aquaculture industry for mutual benefit; and

WHEREAS each Party recognizes the respective jurisdictions of the other Parties to the Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") and their ability to make laws in relation to their own provinces.

THEREFORE, the Parties agree to cooperate on the sustainable development and management of aquaculture, as set out under the provisions agreed to herein.

1. OBJECTIVE

For the Parties to promote the economic, social, and environmentally sustainable development of the aquaculture industry in Canada through actions including, but not limited to, increasing areas of cooperation among the Parties, sharing information and expertise, and partnering on mutually beneficial initiatives.

2. AREAS OF COLLABORATION

- 2.1** The Parties agree to work towards an aligned regulatory and policy environment, to the extent possible, in areas such as leasing and licensing programs, environmental monitoring, reporting, and aquatic animal health.
- 2.2** The Parties agree to work cooperatively, along with industry associations, as appropriate, on:
 - a)** Communications materials pertaining to the aquaculture sector in Atlantic Canada;
 - b)** Research, development and commercialization initiatives;
 - c)** Community engagement approaches; and
 - d)** Training and education activities.
- 2.3** The Parties agree to share statistical information relating to the aquaculture industry, to the extent permissible by their respective laws.
- 2.4** The Parties agree to work together on issues dealing with aquatic animal health surveillance, management, and disease control.
- 2.5** The Parties agree to collaborate, whenever possible, to encourage the development of ancillary industries and services that support the aquaculture sector.
- 2.6** The Parties agree to pursue coordinated approaches from an Atlantic Canadian perspective, to the extent possible, when working with the Government of Canada.

3. MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

- 3.1 The Parties agree to set up a Management Committee whose membership shall consist of a maximum of three officials from each province who are responsible for aquaculture development and management.
- 3.2 The Management Committee will meet twice a year, with additional ad-hoc meetings as necessary.
- 3.3 The Management Committee will ensure that a work plan is developed pursuant to this MOU and that the Deputy Ministers and Ministers responsible for the aquaculture industry are updated on a regular basis, and by an annual report from the Management Committee.
- 3.4 The work plan will assess progress on an ongoing basis and identify any new opportunities for collaboration.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

The Parties will endeavour to provide reasonable notice to the other Parties of any public announcement relating to the signing of this MOU or of any decision taken in furtherance of the MOU's objective.

5. TERMS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 5.1 This MOU shall commence on the date that it is signed by all Parties.
- 5.2 Any Party may withdraw from this MOU by providing the other Parties with ninety (90) days written notice of withdrawal.
- 5.3 Upon withdrawal by one or more Parties, this MOU shall remain in effect among the remaining Parties. If, at any time, there remains only one Party to the MOU, the MOU shall be terminated.
- 5.4 Any Canadian province or territory may, with the consent of all Parties, accede to and participate in this MOU by providing written notice to all Parties of its acceptance of the provisions of the MOU.
- 5.5 This MOU may be amended at any time, by the mutual agreement of all the Parties, by the exchange of letters.
- 5.6 Each Party shall be responsible for its own costs in relation to execution of this MOU.

5.7 The Parties may invite additional officials and subject matter experts to participate in meetings related to the implementation of this MOU as required.

5.8 This MOU replaces the "Atlantic Provinces' Memorandum of Understanding for the Development of the Aquaculture Sector" of January 18, 2008.

The Parties are signing this Agreement on the date(s) stated below:

NEW BRUNSWICK, as represented by the Minister of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries



Honourable Margaret Johnson
Minister of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries

26.01.21

Date

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, as represented by the Minister of Fisheries and Communities

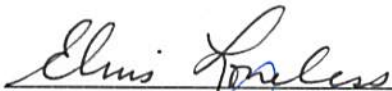

Honourable Jamie Fox

Minister of Fisheries and Communities

19th / 2021

Date

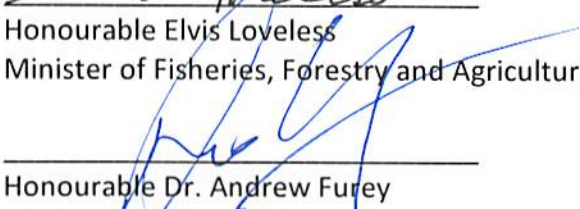
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, as represented by the Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture and the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs



Honourable Elvis Loveless
Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

January 14, 2021

Date

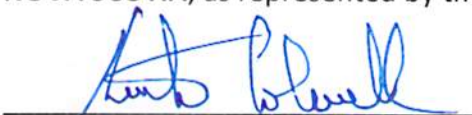

Honourable Dr. Andrew Furey

Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs

Jan 15 / 2021

Date

NOVA SCOTIA, as represented by the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture



Honourable Keith Colwell
Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture

Feb 1, 2021

Date