



Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  
Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture  
Office of the Minister

COR/2024/00717-01

March 19, 2024

Greg Pretty  
President  
FFAW-Unifor  
PO Box 10, Station C  
368 Hamilton Ave, Second Floor  
St. John's, NL A1C 5H5  
[gpretty@ffaw.ca](mailto:gpretty@ffaw.ca)

Dear  Greg Pretty,

Thank you for your timely response to our request for feedback into the expression of interest for outside buyers for snow crab for the 2024 season. I appreciate your clarification on the position of the FFAW and your unequivocal support for proceeding with outside buyers.

As Minister of the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture, I am committed to ensuring Newfoundland and Labrador derives the maximum benefit from our fishing resources.

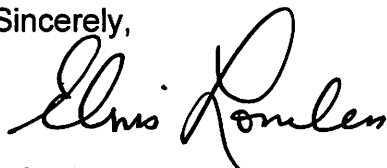
To respond to the matters that you have raised in your letter, with respect to lifting processing caps and the issuance of new licenses, the Province is doing its due diligence on processing capacity and the requests of the FFAW. However, I can advise you that I am committed to raising capacity in the primary processing sector prior to the start of the 2024 fishery. The extent of the increase will be informed, in part, by the Total Allowable Catch to be announced by the federal Minister of Fisheries and Oceans. I am sure that you would agree that this is an important consideration in a final decision.

I can also advise you that the Department of Fisheries, Forestry, and Agriculture will issue on March 19, 2024, an expression of interest for outside buyers for the 2024 snow crab fishery. The expression of interest will include a fish buyer's licence application so that timely issuance of licences can proceed should there be interest.

As the Premier and I have stated in recent weeks, there is a need to look into issues surrounding the fishery given the length of time since a comprehensive review has taken place. As such, the Department of Fisheries, Forestry, and Agriculture will be reaching out to FFAW to seek your views on such a review. As previously stated, the provincial government is willing to consider all proposals to move the fishery forward for the benefit of all residents.

I look forward to your response as we work together to advance the fishery in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elvis Loveless". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Elvis" being more prominent.

**HONOURABLE ELVIS LOVELESS, MHA**  
District of Fortune Bay – Cape La Hune  
Minister

- c. Honourable Dr. Andrew Furey, Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador  
Jason Spingle, Secretary-Treasurer, FFAW