

## Materials Management Workshop - Expression of Interest

The aquaculture sector in Atlantic Canada sustainably produces affordable, nutritious, quality food products that are increasingly in demand worldwide. As with all aspects of food production aquaculture operations produce secondary material streams, some of which are considered as waste. Waste materials typically associated with aquaculture are comprised of both organic and inorganic components and include shellfish and finfish offal, finfish mortalities, biofouling and net cleaning wastes, plastic feed bags and end-of-life buoys / floats, cages and nylon netting material. The management of these materials has long been a priority for the finfish and shellfish aquaculture sectors throughout Atlantic Canada.

Currently materials are managed sufficiently to support proper farm biosecurity and environmental sustainability; however, practices can always be improved and we can learn from gains made in other jurisdictions to decrease waste and improve company profitability. For example, Icelandic companies are leading the way toward more complete utilization of seafood by-products. In some areas of Atlantic Canada recycling infrastructure for finfish cages and feed bags exists, while in other areas this material is landfilled.

The Atlantic Canada Aquaculture Industry Research and Development Network (ACAIRDN) is considering organizing and hosting a Materials Management Workshop in 2015 on behalf of the members of the four Atlantic Canadian aquaculture associations. We are currently looking for expressions of interest for this initiative in order to decide whether or not this workshop will go ahead. With an endorsement from industry, this workshop would examine the production, management and use of secondary materials within the aquaculture industry. We would then utilize the information presented to discuss challenges and opportunities in materials management and areas of focus where research and development could enhance company competitiveness and ensure that we continue to refine our waste management practices.

The ACAIRDN members want to hear from you on which areas of materials and waste management present challenges or opportunities worthy of discussion during this workshop. Please take the time to give us your thoughts on the topics and potential speakers you feel this workshop would benefit from.

The following is a checklist of topics you might see as an opportunity or challenge. Please let us know which of these topics is of interest to you for inclusion in the workshop. Please also add any additional topics and/or suggested speakers when responding to this survey. Please return your comments to your local Research & Development Coordinator by January 30, 2015.



ATLANTIC CANADA AQUACULTURE  
INDUSTRY RESEARCH AND  
DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

**Do you see a challenge or opportunity in the following topics? Are they worthy of focus for our workshop?**

- Finfish offal
- Shellfish offal
- Finfish mortalities
- Plastic feed bags
- End-of-life buoys / floats
- End-of-life cages
- End-of-life rope and nylon netting material
- Other? (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this survey and your comments to your local Research & Development Coordinator by January 30, 2014.**

**The Research and Development Coordinators (RDC) that make up the Atlantic Canada Aquaculture Industry Research and Development Network (ACAIRDN) foster linkages between the provinces by coordinating and communicating research and development issues for the direct benefit of industry and specifically the associations' members.**

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