



ST. JOHN'S TO HOST THE LARGEST AQUACULTURE CONFERENCE IN RECENT CANADIAN HISTORY

Sep 15, 2016, St. John's NL – The largest aquaculture conference and trade show in recent Canadian history is taking place at the Delta Hotel in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador September 18-21st.

This year's national conference themed "Aquaculture – Leading Sustainable Food Production" is a joint venture between The Newfoundland Aquaculture Industry Association (NAIA) and the Aquaculture Association of Canada (AAC). This isn't the first time the two organizations have cohosted conferences but this year will be the largest with more than 450 attendees, representing more than 30 countries.

"Aquaculture is the fastest growing food industry in the world; while leading the food sector globally in terms of environmental and social sustainability. We are proud to cohost this national conference on sustainable aquaculture in Canada's newest province. The conference has garnered significant international interest for its foresight in bringing the production of sustainable seafood and future food security to the forefront for Canadians and around the world", President of NAIA and AAC, Cyr Couturier.

This year's program features more than 100 speakers discussing issues related to food security, sustainability, aquatic health, coastal management, labour market, science and technology in the aquaculture industry; regionally, nationally and internationally.

Guest speakers include representatives of industry and government, scientists and innovators spanning more than a dozen countries such as Canada, United States, Norway, Ireland, Scotland, India, Bolivia, and Pakistan.

"Fish farming is a renewable resource. Farming our oceans with care enables Newfoundlanders and Labradorians and others around the world to produce a sustainable healthy food for a growing population. Aquaculture has a long history in this province and we see a bright future; working in concert with traditional fisheries, providing premium seafood to the world and being a significant contributor to our provincial economy for generations to come. We are extremely excited and proud to be able to showcase our accomplishments in this province on a global stage", said Executive Director of NAIA, Mark Lane.

In recognition of the conference and accomplishments of the aquaculture industry in Newfoundland and Labrador, the Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agrifoods Honourable Steve Crocker has proclaimed September 17th – 25th Aquaculture Week.

Also scheduled to occur at this conference is the official release of the Senate Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans report "An Ocean of Opportunities – Aquaculture in Canada". The Standing Senate Committee on Fisheries and Oceans began its study on

aquaculture in January 2014 with the purpose of examining and reporting on the regulation of aquaculture, current challenges and future prospects for the industry in Canada. The current Chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans is Senator Fabian Manning and the Co-chair is Senator Elizabeth Hubley.

Attached is a detailed conference agenda and program schedule.

Media are invited to attend for photo op and interviews.

Upon presentation of credentials, complimentary media passes are available at the registration desk.

For more information:

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