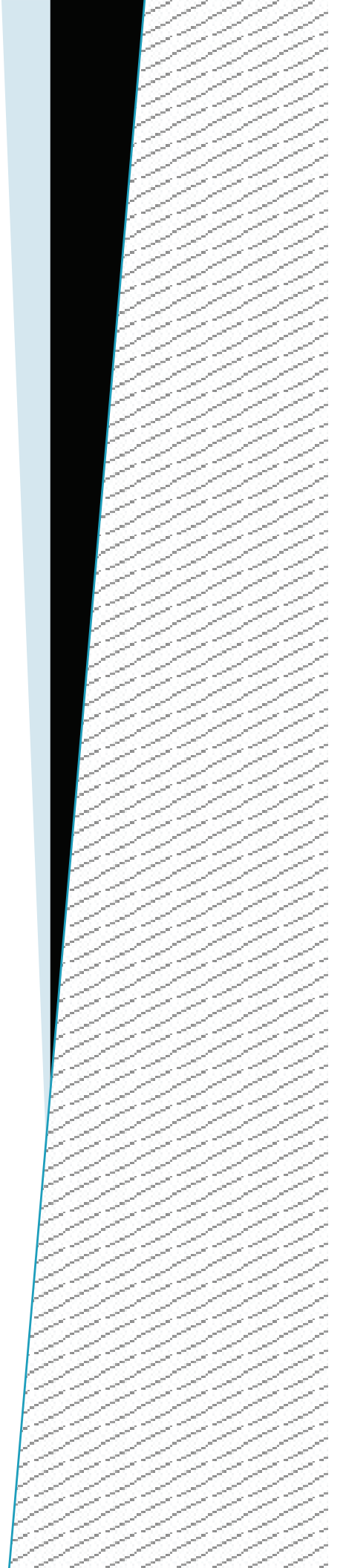



Certification Act

For Nova Scotia

Minister's Conference Jan 2012

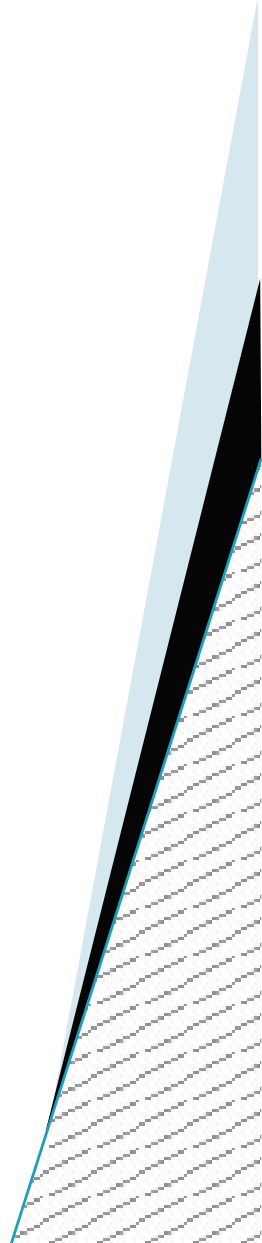


Background

- ▶ The concept of developing legislation for the establishment of a Certification Act for Nova Scotia was introduced in 2011 by a study conducted on the review of Fisheries Organizational Support Act.
 - ▶ It was identified that if legislation was established it may help the region (Scotia Fundy) and Nova Scotia to provide the tools necessary to manage an industry led registration system.
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Background Continued

- ▶ The intention for the legislation is to have it be enabling and to allow the province to do what it intends to do – registration and training.
- ▶ The Certification Act would allow for the establishment of a Certification Board that would be responsible for registration and training. This board would cover all registered fishermen in NS.

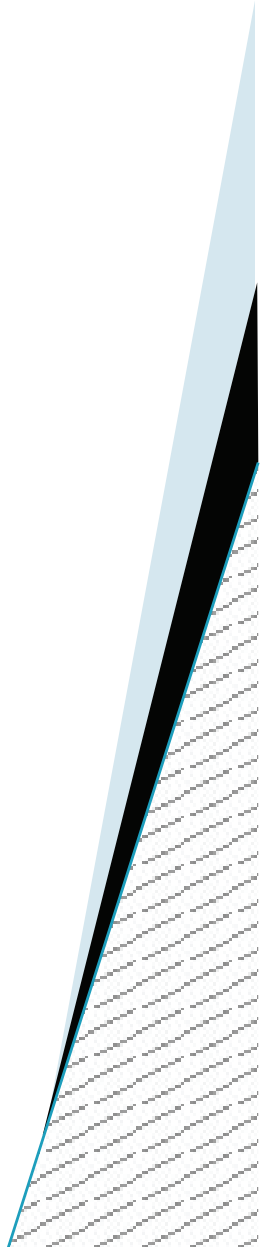


Background Continued

- ▶ The board would be funded through the Personal Fishing Registration fees (\$50) and would not be an additional cost to fishermen.
- ▶ Monies collected would be used for the purpose of registering fishermen and helping to offset training costs. The types of training would be regulatory (Transport Canada) and non- regulatory.
- ▶ This board would not be involved in the management of the fishery.
- ▶ If fishermen choose to not register with the board they can still register through DFO but would not be eligible for training sponsorship or other services provided by the board.

What's been Done

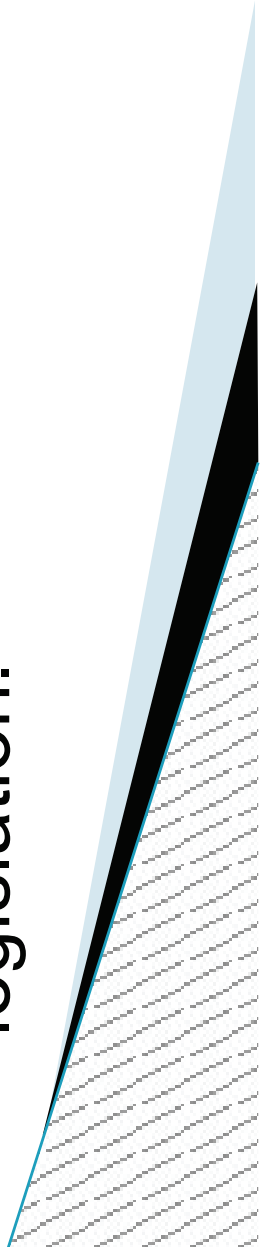
- ▶ A working group of representatives from both the Scotia Fundy and Gulf region in Nova Scotia, along with NS Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (sponsoring department) was formed in March 2011.
- ▶ Representatives from DFO, along with New Brunswick (SF and Gulf) were also invited to participate.




Members of the Working Group

Scotia Fundy	Gulf
Norma Richardson	Ronnie Heighton
Gary Dedrick	Leonard LeBlanc
Ken Snow	Robert Courtney/Brian Adams
Brian Giroux	Darryl MacIvor
Marilyn Crook	Dan MacDougall
Kevin Squires	Trevor MacInnis (invited)
Govt. Representatives – NSDFA	Clary Reardon/Greg Roach
DFO	Arran MacPherson/Helen Kerr
New Brunswick Representatives	Melanie Sonnenberg (Scotia Fundy)
	Gulf NB – no participation
NSFSC	Lisa Anderson - coordinator


What's been Done

- ▶ During the period of March – Sept a total of 4 meetings were held in order to develop the concept of legislation. The final version of the document was completed in Oct 2011.
 - ▶ The NS Fisheries Sector Council on behalf of the working group drafted a letter to the Minister in November 2011 which requested that the concept document be given to the lawyers for drafting of legislation.
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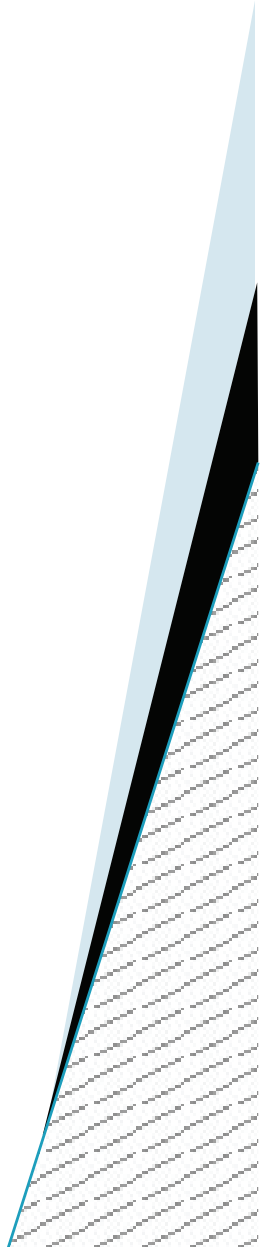
What's been Done

- ▶ During the process a number of items were identified. These items needed further discussion and direction from industry.
 - ▶ These items were in relation to governance, criteria, organizational structure, and registration system.
 - ▶ These items have been reviewed by the working group and we would like to have further feedback from industry today.
- 

Next Steps

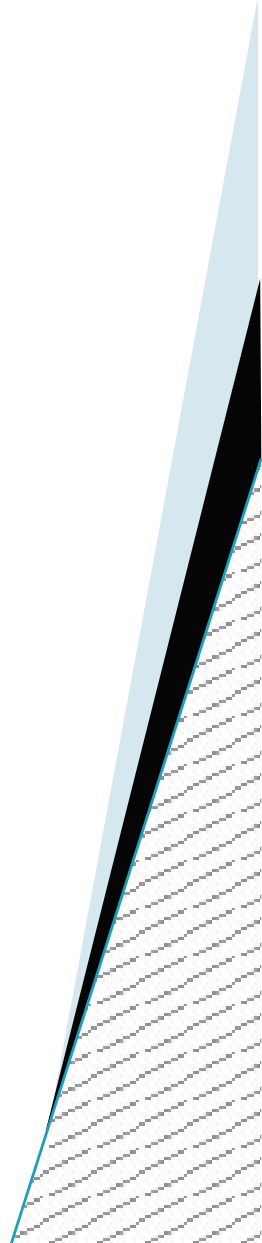
- ▶ Items for consideration need to be finalized (from today's discussions)
 - ▶ Communication tools would need to be developed and circulated to all registered fishermen in Nova Scotia
 - ▶ Consultation would be conducted with industry groups
 - ▶ Need to determine the level of support for moving forward
 - ▶ Legal to develop legislation and prepare for spring setting of legislature
- 

What would this do for you?

- ▶ Establish an industry led registration system that would be funded through the former Personal Fishing Registration system
 - ▶ Use those fees to coordinate training and offset training costs, along with training development (instead of going to general revenue as it is today)
 - ▶ Assist in improving capacity at the wharf level (Network Coordinator program)
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Break Out Sessions

- ▶ Topics for discussion
 - Governance
 - Criteria
 - Organizational Structure
 - Registration System
 - Financial
 - Support

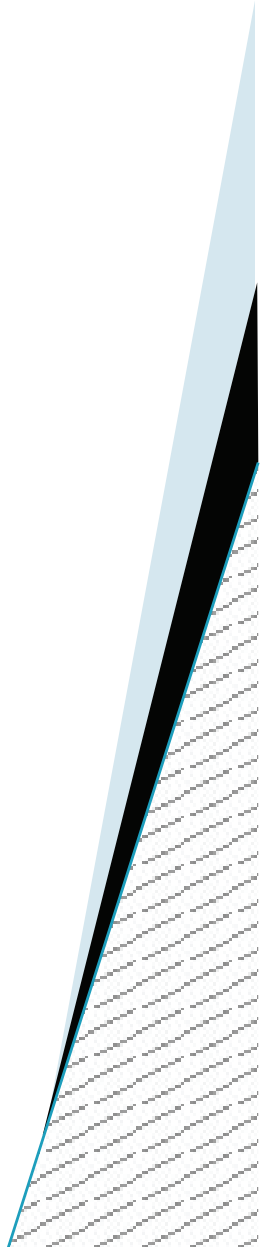


Governance

- ▶ Representation based on industry fleet sector involvement and geographical areas
- ▶ Suggestion to have 15 representatives of the harvesting sector registered with the certification board
- ▶ Suggestion are – 5 seats for offshore, mid shore, and inter-tidal, 10 inshore
- ▶ Exofficio – NSDFA, NSDLAE, DFO, TC, Post secondary education
- ▶ 5 person executive committee

Criteria

- ▶ Fish Harvester
- ▶ Apprentice
- ▶ Apprentice (at the start of the program)



Organizational Structure

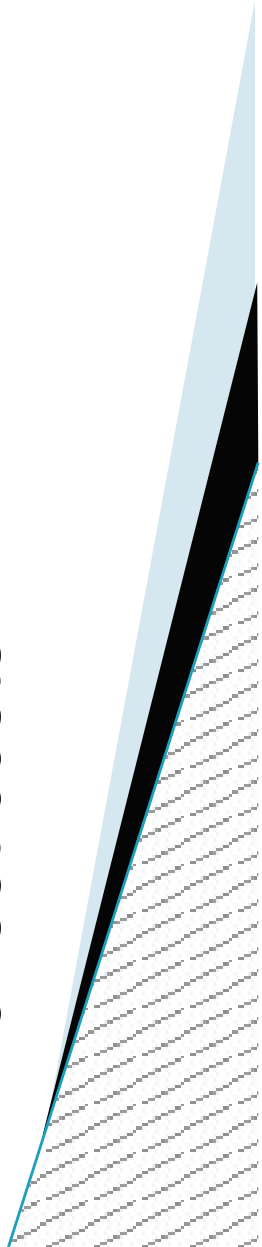
- ▶ Office – one office for the entire province. Initially and for cost efficiency purposes, house within NSFSC. Share administrative resources
- ▶ Staffing – proposed positions
 - Executive Director
 - Registrar
 - Training Coordinator
 - Network Coordinators
 - Other Administrative Support

Registration System

- ▶ Yr. 1 – DFO would issue renewal application.
Requirement for individual to register with the Certification board
- ▶ Issue registration card – state category they are – Fish Harvester or Apprentice
- ▶ Card valid for one year
- ▶ Renewal form would be mailed to each individual registered
- ▶ Sticker returned to registrant
- ▶ Lost or misplaced cards would need to request a new one
- ▶ Similar payment options as before

Financial

- ▶ Estimated amount collected each year (12748)
 - \$637,400 (137,400 admin/500,000 training)
 - Scotia Fundy NS (2011) - 11348
 - Gulf NS (2011) - 1400
- ▶ Funds collected would be used for administration of registration system and training coordination and development
- ▶ Able to leverage funds from other sources to help offset costs



Support

- ▶ How to best “sell” the concept?
- ▶ What information should be presented to fishermen?
- ▶ Method of delivery?
- ▶ How to gauge the level of support?

