

What you need to know about the Fish Harvesters Registration and Certification Board Act

What is the mandate of the board? The mandate of the board is to register and certify fishermen in Nova Scotia and fund and coordinate training opportunities.

What is the value in registering with the board? If fishermen choose to register with the board it gives them opportunity to be part of an organization that will focus their efforts on training for the industry. This will allow for subsidized training for fishermen and a voice in future training development.

Do I have to register with the board? Registering with the board is voluntary and allows for access to a training subsidy. The board is proposing that if however fishermen want to continue registering with DFO then the option is still there. This would not allow them to access the training subsidy.

What will the money be used for? A percentage will be used for administration and the larger balance will be used to offset training costs.

How much will this cost me? The cost is \$50 replacing the current amount you are paying DFO for your Personal Fishing Registration

Will the \$50 ever increase? The intention of the board is to maintain this fee at the current rate.

What types of training will the board support? The board will support training requirements set out by your fishery.

How will the board determine who gets training and when? Each year a training plan would be developed which would be based on a needs assessment conducted with fishermen and availability of funds. Training would be on a first come first serve bases and would be scheduled based on fishing seasons.

What if I have all the training I need? We can't anticipate what training requirements may arise in the future so it's in your best interest to be prepared and registered with the board.

How will the directors be selected? Directors are to be selected by the membership and are based on fleet sector and geographical representation.

How will I know what the organization is doing? Communication tools such as a website and newsletters will be made available so that members can be kept up to date on the activities of the organizations. Staff of the board will also attend meeting of associations/organizations across Nova Scotia in order to provide updates on activities. An annual report will be produced and presented at the AGM.

Is the board representative of fishermen throughout Nova Scotia? Yes board members will be based on fleet sectors and geographical areas across Nova Scotia.

Will this board decide how I fish? No, this board will not be involved in the management of the fishery and will focus its' efforts on training.

Who will collect the money? If fishermen decide to register with the board, fees will be collected by an accountable and transparent registration system.

Who will enforce if I don't pay? The board is proposing that enforcement will be the same as it is today. All fishermen are required to be registered in order to fish.

How much money will be put into training? This will be dependent on how many fishermen register with the board. The intention is to have the majority of the funds collected allocated to training.

How can I show that I am registered with the board? A registration card will be issued to show that you are registered with the board.