

National Indigenous Fisheries Institute Indigenous Program Review

Northern Integrated Commercial Fisheries
Initiative – An Overview

Autumn 2018

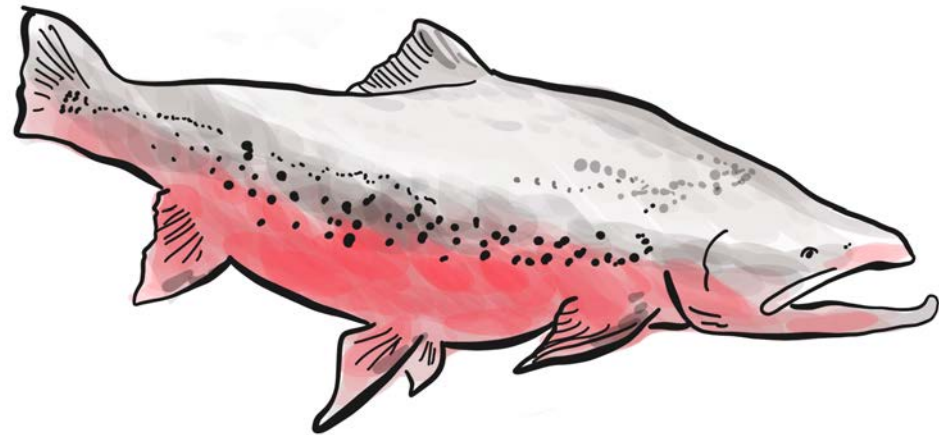


**NATIONAL INDIGENOUS
FISHERIES INSTITUTE**
Indigenous Program Review

**INSTITUT NATIONAL DES
PÊCHES AUTOCHTONES**
Examen des programmes autochtones

Overview

- National Indigenous Fisheries Institute
 - Who we are and what we are doing here today
- Northern Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative
 - Sharing more about the developing program
 - Will continue to be informed by sessions across the North
- Planning fisheries businesses in the North
 - Different business scales
 - Supportive of food security
 - Training and infrastructure needs
 - Markets and industry know-how
- Summary and Next Steps

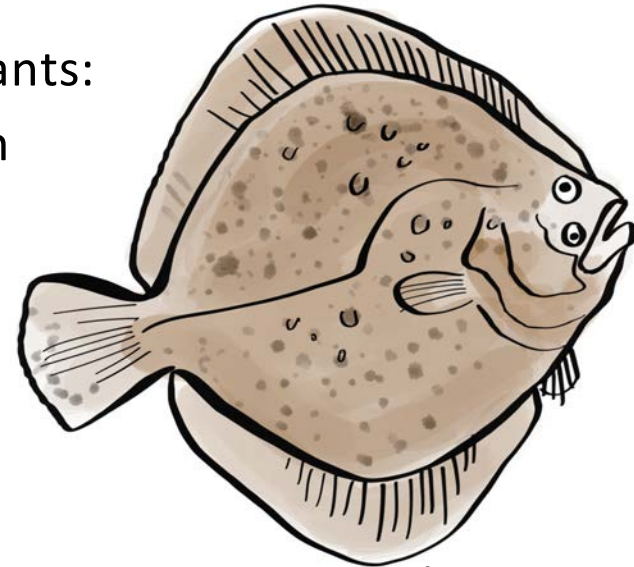


National Indigenous Fisheries Institute

- Technical organization began in May 2017
- Promote program design and development consistency across Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Indigenous programs
 - Indigenous Program Review first task – includes engaging communities on the Northern Commercial Fisheries Initiative
- Board of national and regional Indigenous executives
 - Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
 - Sahtu Region, Northwest Territories
 - Assembly of First Nations
 - Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs Secretariat
 - Ulnooweg Development Group
 - First Nations Fisheries Council of British Columbia
 - Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis First Nation

The Northern Program

- Appropriate to the North, modelled on Atlantic/Pacific programs:
 - Proven commercial fisheries can be driver for socio-economic development and self-sufficiency in Indigenous communities
 - Must meet unique needs and issues of participants:
 - Highest overhead costs, short fishing season
 - Local food security
- Eligibility:
 - Groups located where DFO manages a fishery (not covered by Atlantic/Pacific programs)
 - Land-claim groups that have not been eligible for DFO programs in the past
- Broad interest in participation
 - Limited resources for first two years (in second year now)
 - Entering business planning and development stage



Northern Program Design Development

- Focused on capacity-building:
 - Business planning and development
 - Harvest and management training
 - Business expansion and diversification opportunities
- Building on lessons learned and best practices in Atlantic / Pacific:
 - Appropriate Indigenous organization(s) to deliver program
 - Business development team
 - Performance metrics (e.g., jobs, revenues, etc.)
 - Initial years focussed on business planning and development
- Informed by communities across the North:
 - Discussion paper and engagement activities



Business Planning and Development

- Important things to consider while planning:
 - How will the development of your business be managed?
 - What capacity do you need to manage your business and its development?
 - What expertise will you need from a business development team, such as:
 - Emerging fisheries
 - Fishing technology (new gear)
- What will be the scale (size and scope) of your business?
 - Priorities and aspirations: today, in five years, in 10 years, and beyond
 - Food security and food distribution can be built into the program
- Let's look at business scales in more depth...

Subsistence, Artisanal and Commercial Fisheries Production

Fisheries generally move through three stages:

- **Subsistence** fisheries undertaken by families and communities
 - Focused on local needs
- **Artisanal** fisheries often derive from subsistence activities
 - Generally closely related (same gear, same people, same locations)
 - But provide for sale of products to people outside food production circle
- **Commercial** fisheries focus on commercial scale production
 - Involve larger or very large vessels, large volumes of product
 - Revolve around modern shore-based processing or on-vessel processing
 - All product designated to go to commercial market place



Economics and Options related to Development

- **Subsistence** fisheries can have monetary components
 - But, often do not
 - Focused on family, food security and local distribution
- **Artisanal** fisheries have sale components
 - But sales and use of money that come from sales stay within the network (families) that produces and sells products locally
- **Commercial** fisheries all monetary
 - Ability to achieve and sustain profit is what determines relative viability

Fisheries Development

Subsistence



Community-based



Commercial



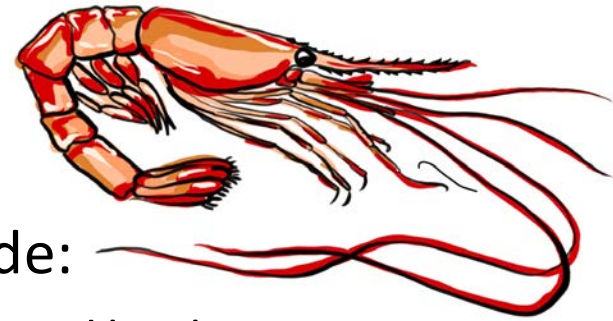
Northern Fisheries: Realities

- Cost of production a challenge when studying potential of northern fisheries to enter into a commercial scale
 - With ALL commercial fisheries worldwide, single largest variable is cost of energy
 - When cost of production (with energy included both for capture, processing and transportation to market) exceeds potential margin, commercial fisheries become non-viable
- Subsistence and artisanal fisheries do not work this way
 - Subsistence fisheries focus on food and food security
 - Artisanal fisheries generally use money from sales to offset cost of food production



Evolution toward Commercial Production

- Inshore commercial fisheries have several factors and components that need to align before they can reach commercial threshold:
 - Consistency of production volumes
 - Consistency of Quality Control in terms of capture and processing (generally to government standards)
 - Ability to move processed product to marketplace within boundaries of acceptable margin (cost of energy to transport)
- Different for offshore, large-vessel fisheries
- Transition when the business case can be made:
 - From subsistence/artisanal to commercial determined by the community (unit of production)



Transition: Support Food Security

- Interim and very valuable step for many northern community-based fisheries in continuum of fisheries development:
 - **Redistribution within own communities** and local institutions (hospitals, elder care facilities, school programs etc.)
- Serve needs of local people **first**
- Integrate Northern fisheries program with other programs that support overall community welfare though food supply security:
 - Ensure young and elderly have full access to best food
 - Community freezers



Support Food Security

- Integrate generations in terms of learning production, processing and distribution skills
- Build local economy by providing steady employment in a food security program
 - Can be combined to include terrestrial species and sea mammals
- Will lead to commercial production if community decides to go in this direction
 - Prioritizes local needs before commercial interests
- Let's look at other business development needs...

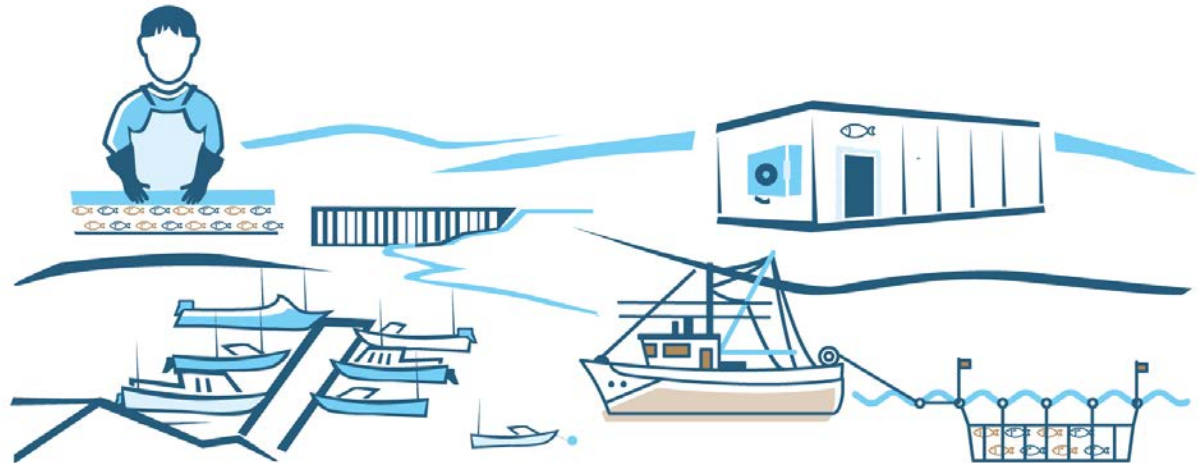


Training and Infrastructure Needs

- Harvester Training
 - Skills to safely and effectively harvest different fish and shellfish
 - Qualified captains and crew with vessel maintenance skills
 - Nunavut Fisheries and Marine Training Consortium
- Fisheries Business Management Training
 - Running the business (managing workers, finances, distribution, etc.)

- Infrastructure Needs

- Vessels and gear
- Landing sites
- Processing facilities
- Community freezers



Markets and Industry Know-How

- Markets exist for virtually all species in the North:
 - Market placement and access depend on cost of production: the closer markets are to point of capture, the better
- Governments could working together with producers to develop a “buy local policy” directed at:
 - Resource developers
 - Government institutions
 - Tourism operators and cruise ships
- Initiative could jump start transition toward commercial fisheries:
 - Ensures localized market and floor volume of production
- Institute can help with business development:
 - Working with producers to access correct markets for their products
 - Debunking myths, misconceptions, outright lies and misrepresentations
 - Always ready to help when folks are ready: Contact us



Summary

- **Northern Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative**
 - Ready to start planning and development stage later this year
- **National Indigenous Fisheries Institute**
 - Can play important role in helping communities and government integrate effort for best possible results
- **Options exist relating to fisheries development**
- **Food security and food distribution** can be built into the program
 - Affords opportunities for broad collaboration in program design and implementation



Next Steps

- Completion of Institute engagement in November
 - Western and Central Arctic
 - Yukon
 - Lower Mackenzie
- Interim Report planned
 - Before full phase two Indigenous Program Review report
- Feedback still invited
 - Discussion paper on indigenousfisheries.ca
 - Email feedback@indigenousfisheries.ca
 - Lines of communication always open

