

**Considering** the duty to protect right whales in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and more specifically in Snow Crab Fishing Area 12;

**Considering** that it is necessary to set an earlier crab fishery opening date in Area 12 to be consistent;

**Considering** all the difficulties associated with a staggered fishery start date, particularly in terms of logistics and the costs of unloading outside the province of origin;

**Considering** that, in the current situation, the Quebec snow crab industry fully supports its New Brunswick counterpart in implementing solutions that allow for an early opening of the fishing season and that could allow the entire Area 12 industry to operate simultaneously from the usual landing ports;

**Considering** that there is an urgent need for action and that any delays by government agencies would have significant and detrimental social and economic consequences for the snow crab industry in Area 12;

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT AT THE MEETING HELD IN CARLETON-SUR-MER ON JULY 23, 2019, WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FISHERS' ASSOCIATIONS AND PROCESSORS' ASSOCIATIONS FROM BOTH NEW BRUNSWICK AND QUEBEC REQUEST THE FOLLOWING:

**A. THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA AND THE COAST GUARD**

- Provide the necessary funds to de-ice ports, harbours and channels of the Gulf adjacent to Area 12 and ensure that Caraquet and Shippagan fishing ports are open and accessible to facilitate snow crab fishing as soon as the waters of the Gulf are ice-free and safe, which could allow an early and simultaneous fishing season for the entire snow crab industry in Area 12;

**B. THAT THE COAST GUARD**

- Launch the call for tenders at Public Works and Government Services Canada to identify a competent and available company for de-icing services at Gulf ports, harbours and channels in early spring 2020;
- Ensure that this call for tenders is issued by the end of August 2019 at the latest;

**C. THAT THE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR ACADIE-BATHURST**

- Ensure the prompt completion of the necessary steps to open the Gulf ports, harbours and channels for an early fishing season allowing for a simultaneous fishing season for the entire snow crab industry in Area 12;

**E. THAT THE NEW BRUNSWICK MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES**

- Strongly support all the steps that will be taken to allow the simultaneous opening of the snow crab fishing season in Area 12 for Quebec and New Brunswick, and provide the necessary resources;

**F. THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE CARAQUET AND SHIPPAGAN RIDINGS**

- Strongly support all the steps that will be taken to allow the simultaneous opening of the snow crab fishing season in Area 12 for Quebec and New Brunswick, and provide the necessary resources;

**G. THAT THE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR GASPÉSIE–LES ÎLES-DE-LA-MADELEINE**

- Strongly support all the steps that will be taken to allow the simultaneous opening of the snow crab fishing season in Area 12 for Quebec and New Brunswick, and provide the necessary resources;

**H. THAT THE MINISTÈRE DE L'AGRICULTURE, DES PÊCHERIES ET DE L'ALIMENTATION DU QUÉBEC**

- Strongly support all the steps that will be taken to allow the simultaneous opening of the snow crab fishing season in Area 12 for Quebec and New Brunswick, and provide the necessary resources;

Signed on August 8, 2019, by:

Transformateurs de Crabe du Nouveau-Brunswick Inc.



Pêcheurs traditionnels des îles de la madeleine

Association des crabiers gaspésiens