

# **Fish Harvesters**

Registration and Certification Board  
of Nova Scotia

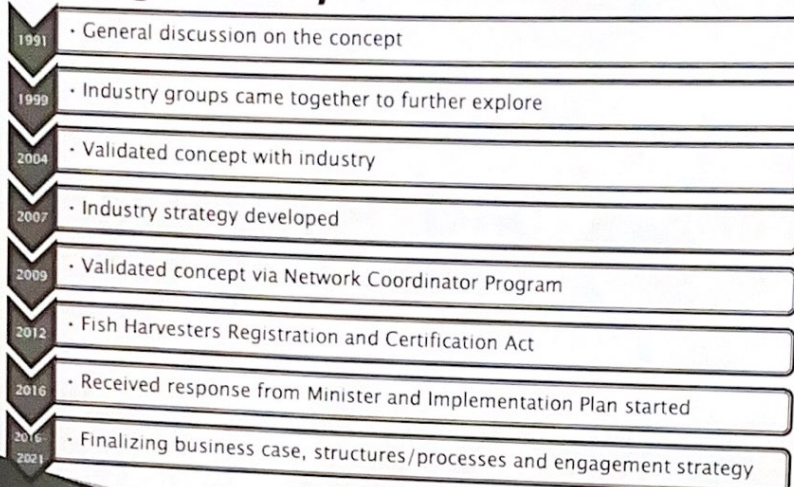
## **Background and Program Overview**

### **Mandate - Purpose and Objectives of the FHRCBNS**

- Mandate of the Fish Harvesters Registration and Certification Board of Nova Scotia is to administer a registration and certification system and coordinate training for fish harvesters in Nova Scotia.
- Purpose of the board
  - Is to register and certify fish harvesters in the Province of Nova Scotia,
  - Establish certification criteria based on the knowledge, skills and experience of fish harvesters,
  - Coordinate training opportunities and provide financial support to improve the safety and knowledge of fish harvesters; and
  - Promote the sustainability and economic viability of the fishing industry
- Objectives of the board are to:
  - Improve capacity of fishermen
  - Improve the image of work in the fishery
  - Promote and strengthen a training and safety culture amongst fishermen



## Long history of Establishment



## What do we want to do:

- › **Register** commercial fish harvesters in the Province of Nova Scotia
- › **Certify** fish harvesters based on their past experience and training received
- › Administer a **training** system to help build capacity and knowledge in the industry



## Proposed Structure

- Inclusion of all fish harvesters holding a PFR in the province of Nova Scotia
- Governed by the *Fish Harvester Registration and Certification Board Act*
- Representation from all fleet sectors and geographical regions

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## Who can register?

- Active participants in commercial fishery.
- Canadian citizen or permanent resident or foreign crew.
- Age requirements will be consistent with applicable DFO region requirements.
- Optional for those with communal fishing licenses under the Aboriginal Commercial Fishing License Regulations.



## **Role of FHRCBNS**

- Board is responsible to register and certify fish harvesters.
- Step 1 – register by collecting \$50 fee from fish harvesters.
- Step 2 – certify individuals at various levels including.
  - Certified Professional Fish Harvester
    - Licence Holder
  - Certified Professional Fish Harvester
    - Non-Licence Holder
  - Professional Fish Harvester
    - Licence Holder
  - Professional Fish Harvester
    - Non-Licence Holder
  - Apprentice

## **Operational Requirements**

- Office will be housed within the NSFSC to reduce operational costs.
- Various staffing positions will be required based on number of registrants and programs offered.
- Will work closely with Fish Harvester's Associations to help promote registration among their members.



## Expected Staffing

Depending on #of registrants attained staffing positions could vary in terms of annual hours worked. The Implementation Plan simulates staffing requirements against the number of registrants.

Key positions include:

- **Managing Director** – responsible for management and administration of Board
- **Registrar** – Manage registration system.
- **Training Coordinator** – coordinates programs, training and conducts individual needs assessments.
- **Industry Navigators** – as needed and will be contracted as support at wharf level. Can play a role in initial registration of fish harvesters
- **Other admin. support** – as required at peak times to assist Registrar and Training Coordinator.

## Registration



## **FHRCBNS Registration Process**

Three options will  
be provided to  
Registrants

Paper based by mail  
or phone.

Online.

In person Mobile  
Registration Sites

### ▶ Initial registration

- Promotion made to all holders of Personal Fisher Registrations (PFR) providing new option to obtain PFR.
- Promote the benefits of being registered with the FHRCBNS.
- Registration form available or online.
- Payment Made
- Valid for one year with hard copy or electronic validation.

## **Registration Process (cont.)**

### ▶ Renewal registration (can be done using any one of 3 options – mail/online/in-person)

- Individuals will be required to renew registration each year.
- Renewal form to be completed and submitted with the annual payment.



## Fish Harvesters Database

- ▶ What will be included
  - On an individual basis records will be maintained in a database that will be managed by the FHRCBNS office.
  - Records will include:
    - Demographic information
    - Certification status
    - Training participation
  - Information will be captured from annual forms.
  - All individual data is confidential. Will be shared with DFO as per licensing requirements.
  - All information will be subject to Access to Information and Privacy Acts.

## Sample Card

- ▶ White plastic card will be issued – wallet size.  
Can also be stored on phone



**Fish Harvesters**  
Registration and Certification Board  
of Nova Scotia

Name: John Doe  
FID: 1234567  
DOB: 1978/08/23  
Date of Issue: 2023/08/24  
Expiry Date: 2027/12/31  
Certification Level: Certified Professional Fish Harvester

## Payment Options

► Options provided to include:

- Cheque
- Money order
- Cash
- Credit/Debit card
- Online
- Etransfer

## Certification



## Certification

### ► Certification Categories are defined for:

- Certified Professional Fish Harvester – Licence and Non-Licence Holder
- Professional Fish Harvester – Licence and Non-Licence Holder
- Apprentice

## Certification Process

### ► Initial certification

- There will be three different levels;
- Each level has defined criteria and associated guidelines.
- Process provides opportunities to recognize past experience.
- Existing industry will be grandfathered.
- New entrants come in as apprentices.



## **Certified Professional Fish Harvester**

- › **Certified Professional Fish Harvester – Licence Holder (L)**
- › **Certified Professional Fish Harvester – Non - Licence Holder (NL)**

### **Criteria**

- › Must be registered with the Board
- › Must be a Canadian Citizen, or a permanent resident (landed immigrant), or a foreign crew member who is the holder of a valid work permit and working on a Canadian fishing vessel
- › Must have fished on a commercial basis for the required period of time set out by the zone
- › Holds necessary training Certification (s) for fleet sector
- › May or may not hold a commercial fishing licence.

## **Professional Fish Harvester**

- › **Professional Fish Harvester - Licence Holder (L)**
- › **Professional Fish Harvester – Non-Licence Holder (NL)**

### **Criteria**

- › Must be registered with the Board
- › Must be a Canadian Citizen, or a permanent resident (landed immigrant), or a foreign crew member who is the holder of a valid work permit and working on a Canadian fishing vessel
- › Must have fished on a commercial basis for the required period of time set out by the zone
- › Does not hold all necessary training Certification (s) for fleet sector
- › May or may not hold a commercial fishing licence.



## Apprentice

### Apprentice

#### Criteria

- › Must be registered with the Board
- › Must be a Canadian Citizen, or a permanent resident (landed immigrant), or a foreign crew member who is the holder of a valid work permit and working on a Canadian fishing vessel
- › Has not fished on a commercial basis for the required period of time set out by the zone
- › May or may not have completed necessary training for fleet sector.

## Certification Plan of Action

- › Stage 1 – Those Registered with FHRCBNS will be divided into four equal groupings. On a batch basis 25% of registrants will be sent an information collection form that will permit the initial certification assessment. (one batch per quarter year)
- › Stage 2 – Complete the assessment – Each returned form will be reviewed to ensure certificate #s, date of issue and date of expiry are all provided. At this point certification can be offered on an honour basis.
- › Stage 3 – Offer a service of centralized storage for all certificates. This will represent a Verified Certification status. It would also be possible to provide proof of certification to 3<sup>rd</sup> parties (DFO and other government agencies).



## **Certification Process for Advancement**

- Process for advancing to higher level
  - Step one- registrant makes application to move higher.
  - Step two – applicant documents previous training and sea time.
  - Step three – registrar assesses application to determine if higher classification warranted.
  - Appeal process will be available

**Training**



## **Training System**

- › Review training completed by registrants
- › Work will be done to complete an industry wide initial training program plan.
- › Programs to be offered – regulatory and non-regulatory (Transport Canada requirements, industry specific as requested)
- › Discounts will be offered to registrants. Amount to be determined based on number of registrants

## **How this new service will help Fish Harvesters in Nova Scotia**

- › Industry managed registration system
- › Recognition for the skills, knowledge and experience obtained by a certification system
- › Training system to help support fish harvesters receive the training they require
- › Database that will maintain records of previous training, renewal dates, etc
- › Opportunity to develop training to help support needs of the industry (non-regulatory)

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## How this new service will help Fish Harvesters in Nova Scotia

- ▶ Ability to streamline process for fishermen when working with govt. departments - ie TC, LSI
- ▶ One organization with the sole responsibility to manage a registration and certification system - better labour market information, identify labour needs, etc
- ▶ One system to capture training information - better determine training needs, where resources are needed
- ▶ Ability to improve the image of the industry, increase capacity and strengthen a training and safety culture in the industry

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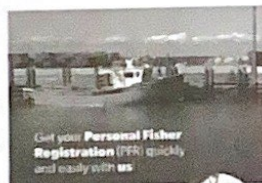
## What's Next

- ▶ Help to support registration for 2021 & 2022 year
- ▶ Work on certification and training functions for database
- ▶ Set up operation
- ▶ Industry engagement



# Industry Engagement Tools and Resources

## Sample Promo



Get your **Personal Fisher Registration (PFR)** quickly and easily with us

- 100% online fee-free PFR
- Apply online from your phone, tablet, or laptop
- Issue your PFR electronically – any time of the day
- Recognized by DFO

Now you can get your PFR in a way that keeps your money here in Nova Scotia and supports boating, skills, and safety development for our Nova Scotia harvesters.

Visit [nsfishharvesters.ca](http://nsfishharvesters.ca) today



Registration and Certification Board of Nova Scotia

**Keep your money here**  
When you get your PFR through the board, you keep your money here in Nova Scotia, supporting our local industry

**Quick, Easy Online**  
And now you can issue your PFR on your phone/tablet/laptop for any device. Your photos can be ready in your wallet.

**Get boating that matters to you**  
The board's main experience lies in the boating that matters the most to Nova Scotia fish harvesters.

**Validate your skill level**  
Recognize your abilities by getting certified as one of three levels through the board.

**Stay in the loop**  
We'll keep you informed about what's going on in relation to boating, skills and safety.

**DFO recognized**  
DFO is a mandatory requirement to be registered – either with the board or DFO. Pay annually whether you register through us or DFO.

Visit [nsfishharvesters.ca](http://nsfishharvesters.ca) today to learn more.



Rack Card Front

Back



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# Sample Promo



## Website and Face Book Page

- [www.nsfishharvesters.ca](http://www.nsfishharvesters.ca)
- FB – Fish Harvesters Registration and Certification Board of Nova Scotia
- FAQ – on website to be reviewed and understood
- Future presentation materials will be provided if presenting to Fish Harvester Associations

## Mobile Registration Plan of Action

- All registrants in the database will receive an email to direct them to the new option and provide them with a username (FIN) and password (computer generated)
- Schedules for each zone will be developed by Industry Navigators, NSFSC staff
- Promotion will be done prior to event. Encourage captains, crew to attend. Bring FIN#, password and form of payment



## Process Required

- ▶ Potential registrants will be asked to bring their FIN # and a form of payment
- ▶ Registration Staff will use FIN to identify individual and confirm personal information currently in the database.
- ▶ Payment of \$50 will then be accepted
- ▶ Wallet size card will then be issued
- ▶ Registrant will then be listed as active in the FHRCBNS database
- ▶ Inform registrant that in future years they will not receive a notice from DFO to renew their PFR, just from us. If they choose to go back to DFO they will have to submit a request

## What to expect

Myths vs reality panel



# Database Demo

Guild

## Next steps and Closing

- Promote to your members
- Encourage participation at mobile registration sites
- Stay tuned for more info as the program gets started