



Dear Fellow Fishermen,

Atlantic Canada's commercial fishery is vital to our region.

For thousands of Atlantic Canadians who work on the boats, wharves, processing plants, and throughout the supply chain, the commercial fishery is our livelihood. For rural communities and governments, the fisheries represent jobs, a tax base, and economic impact that helps to provide vital services for all residents.

Unfortunately, regulatory uncertainty is causing anxiety and concern among fishermen and others over the long-term sustainability and prosperity of the industry. Clear rules, regulations, compliance, and enforcement are needed. To achieve this, we need to work together and speak with one voice.

The Unified Fisheries Conservation Alliance (UFCA), established in 2020, is working hard to be that voice on this common concern.

The UFCA represents thousands of multi-species commercial fishermen, fishery associations, and associated businesses, large and small, from across Atlantic Canada. As people recognise the value of working together, the Alliance has grown and new members are joining every week.

Our goal is to work with the Government of Canada and First Nations to establish clear, lasting, responsible, regulatory oversight for all fisheries – commercial, and food, social, and ceremonial. It is essential that every community, association and fisherman in the Atlantic fishery have certainty as to the rules that all fishermen abide by.

Just as commercial fisheries operate today, there is room for diversity. There can be differences within allocation structures, administration, and process. However, rules must ultimately and clearly form part of an integrated set of regulations with two overarching objectives:

1. To conserve fishery resources for generations to come; and,
2. To ensure a fair and respectful fishery for all.

The UFCA believes that Indigenous and non-Indigenous fishermen can work side by side like they do today in the commercial fishery. We recognize and acknowledge the importance of cooperation with Indigenous communities, and that Indigenous fishermen have a right to a fish for commercial, food, social, and ceremonial. Our members reject all forms of racism, intolerance, and violence, and believe there is a path to move beyond the controversies and heated rhetoric of recent months, to a positive outcome for all.

Our team is in the early stages of planning and developing communications material, meeting with federal government officials, and reviewing legal positions, as we determine next steps. We have engaged a team of leading advisors to inform and guide us on our approach.

We need to prepare today—this will take significant time and financial resources. We need commitment from our communities and all commercial license holders and associated businesses, but we all know it will be worth the effort to conserve fishery resources for generations to come.

With that in mind, the suggested donation is **\$1000.<sup>00</sup>**. Yes, that's no small amount, but ask yourself this: what is your livelihood worth to you, your family, our coastal communities? This is your way to make a meaningful difference.

All collected donations will go towards the government relations, communications, legal activities, and other associated costs as needed. Receipts will be issued to all who donate toward this initiative. To receive a receipt, you must provide your name (company name if applicable) and full mailing address when making transfers.

Cheques can be made out to:

Unified Fisheries Conservation Alliance  
3-4083 Hwy #308  
Tusket, NS, B0W 3M0

E-Transfer Payments can be sent to: [UFCA.fund@gmail.com](mailto:UFCA.fund@gmail.com)

### **United Fisheries Conservation Alliance Members**

The UFCA includes members from:

- Bay of Fundy Inshore Fishermen's Association
- Brazil Rock 33/34 Fishermen's Association
- Coldwater Lobster Association
- Scotia Fundy Inshore fishermen's Association
- Cape Breton Fish Harvester's Association
- Eastern Shore Fishermen's Protective Association
- Fundy North Fishermen's Association
- Guysborough County Inshore Fishermen's Association
- Richmond County Inshore Fishermen's Association
- Associated businesses

