

## **Moving Forward: Guiding Principles for Future Fisheries and Coastal Community Resilience**

### **In Newfoundland and Labrador**

1. Fisheries policy will be guided by a revitalization strategy that values our fisheries, coastal communities and living marine resources and seeks to build economically, socially and ecologically resilient fisheries and coastal communities in all regions of Newfoundland and Labrador.
2. The people and communities of Newfoundland and Labrador (present and future) will be the principal beneficiaries of the fisheries and other living marine resources off our shores.
3. The fisheries and other marine resources of Newfoundland and Labrador will be developed equitably and sustainably so as to ensure that future generations obtain equal or greater benefits from them than the current generation enjoys.
4. Marine resources development will include new innovative programs to attract young people and others into the fishing industry, provide them with appropriate training and resource access, and take advantage of the skills and knowledge they will bring to a revitalized fishery.
5. The future development of Newfoundland and Labrador fisheries will enhance the contribution of seafood to food security in coastal communities, the province and in Canada by prioritizing local food consumption and supporting the development of local food systems that build on community and individual assets.
6. Policy-makers will use research on fisheries, oceans and coastal communities, that is based on interdisciplinary expertise supplemented by local knowledge, and broad stakeholder engagement in order to ensure that policy-making processes are based on the best knowledge available and transparent.
7. Policy design and implementation will be tailored to each region and will operate through a system of governance that gives those most affected by policies a real say in the decision-making process.
8. The fishing industry of the future will build on current strengths in such a manner as to become diverse, flexible, adaptable and multi-faceted, utilising a combination of large, medium and small, community and regionally-based enterprises in harvesting, processing and marketing.
9. The development of the future fishing industry will be part of a well-coordinated, well-resourced, integrated and sustained regional development program guided by democratically elected regional representatives.
10. This regional development program will maximize synergies within fisheries and between fisheries and other sectors, develop and promote the economic value that exists in coastal communities and the province, and use innovative approaches to marketing Newfoundland and Labrador fisheries heritage, culture, knowledge, stewardship and seafood within the province, nationally and globally.

NOTE: These ten principles provide a *vision* and a *framework* within which current policies should be examined and future policies designed and implemented. (For example, the current owner-operated and fleet separation policies are consistent with principle 4 and should therefore be maintained and strengthened). The Policy Paper and briefer Policy Booklet, *Moving Forward: Building Economically, Socially and Ecologically Resilient Fisheries and Coastal Communities* (<http://www.curra.ca/documents/CURRA-Booklet-FINAL-WebRes.pdf>) propose 22 main recommendations (plus an additional 18 sub-recommendations) which are consistent with these principles and, if implemented, they would contribute greatly to achieving their vision.