



# **“Southern Gulf Snow Crab Workshop - Introduction & Objectives”**

**January 15, 2008**

# Canadian Centre for Fisheries Innovation

## Research and Development Agency

- University Owned
- Funded by ACOA
- Managed by Industry
- Links Industry to Atlantic Canada's Universities and Colleges
- 709 Innovative Initiatives over 18 years, worth \$82.5 million
- Focus on the Fishery and Aquaculture Industry
  - Species/Environmental Conservation
  - Emerging Species
  - Value-added Product Development
  - Aquaculture
  - Processing Efficiency

# CCFI Involvement

- **CCFI approached in August to facilitate organization of Workshop.**
- **Why?**
  - **Unbiased & independent**
  - **Atlantic wide mandate**
  - **Industry driven**
  - **CCFI has organized similar forums in recent years**
    - **Shrimp Workshop, NL – 2004**
    - **Haddock Workshop, NS – 2006**
    - **Atlantic Lobster Summit, NS - 2007**

# Conference Program Development

- **Establishment of steering committee in September to guide development of conference.**
  - **Includes cross section of industry and government representatives.**
- **Three steering committee meetings scheduled to seek industry input on development of program.**
- **Agenda finalized based upon extensive discussion.**

# Background

- **Identified Need for a Southern Gulf Snow Crab Workshop.**
- **Why?**
  - **Highly valuable fishery for region.**
  - **Widely distributed industry.**
    - 4 provinces involved.
  - **To engage all sector groups in meaningful discussion & to develop follow-up process to address identified problems & meet new opportunities.**

# Background

**Southern Gulf Snow Crab industry is facing challenges:**

- *Projected stock decline.*
- *Cost-Price squeeze for harvesters and processors.*
- *Aging workforce.*
- *Lack of coordinated harvesting and processing activities.*
- *Complex fleet issues.*
- *Joint management challenges.*
- *Eco-labeling considerations.*

# Objectives of Workshop

- **Examine marketing-related challenges and opportunities.**
- **To engage and assist industry in the design of a common vision for maximizing Oceans to Plate opportunities.**
- **Encourage meaningful dialogue between stakeholder groups to focus on common challenges and opportunities.**

# What We've Heard

- **General consensus on need for workshop.**
- **Need clearer understanding of oceans to plate vision as it relates to southern gulf snow crab fishery.**
- **Need to concentrate heavily on markets and market requirements.**
- **Requirement for further product development and diversification.**
- **Need to examine means to improve trust and transparency between industry and government.**

# What We've Heard

- **Need to review cyclical nature of snow crab resource and prices & their influence on industry viability.**
- **Need to ensure high quality product in the water, on the boat, in the plant & in the market.**
- **Need a better common understanding of external forces i.e. eco-labeling, carbon footprint, etc.**
- **Workshop follow-up with industry is essential.**

# Program Overview

- **Session One - Status Report on Snow Crab – Resource Overview and Outlook**
- **Session Two - Snow Crab Market Opportunities, Challenges and Realities**
- **Session Three - Harvesting: Sector Overview & Options for Addressing Resource and Market Trends**
- **Session Four - Processing Sector Challenges & Opportunities**
- **Session Five - From the Sea to the Table: Maximizing Regional Economic Benefits from the Snow Crab Fishery Recognizing Resource, Industry and Market Conditions – A Strategic Analysis**