

# **DFO-Coast Guard Reconciliation Strategy**



**Federal** Commitment Build renewed nation-to-nation, Inuit-Crown, and government-to-government relationships with Indigenous peoples based on the recognition of rights, respect, co-operation, and partnership

DFO-**Coast Guard** Commitment Recognize and implement Indigenous and treaty rights related to fisheries, oceans, aquatic habitat, and marine waterways in a manner consistent with section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the federal Principles Respecting the Government of Canada's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples

Long-term

**Objectives** 

### Strengthened **Indigenous-Crown Relationship**

DFO-Coast Guard partners with Indigenous groups on a rights recognition and distinctions basis, using aggregates where feasible. Indigenous groups' role in management and decision-making is well-defined, implemented, accepted by all parties.

#### Recognized **Self-Determination**

Indigenous groups effectively manage their own fisheries and other marine assets in their territories. Indigenous groups share in fisheries, oceans, aquatic habitat, and marine waterways decision-making.

#### Reduced **Socio-Economic Gaps**

Indigenous groups have appropriate food, social, ceremonial (FSC) and commercial fish access. Indigenous groups participate in a variety of economic development opportunities (e.g., fish harvesting, aquaculture, marine infrastructure).

The quality of DFO and Coast Guard relationships with Indigenous peoples is enhanced

Indigenous peoples have jurisdiction over their affairs and share in decision-making

Socio-economic benefits are increased for Indigenous peoples

Indigenous peoples are engaged with DFO and Coast Guard in management and decision-making activities Indigenous peoples have the capacity to manage their affairs and participate in decision-making

Indigenous peoples have the capacity to participate in a variety of economic opportunities

DFO and Coast Guard employees are aware of Indigenous peoples' rights, expected roles, and aspirations

Policies, programs, and processes are in place that enable Indigenous management and decision-making Indigenous peoples have access to new and expanded programs and policies that support economic development in the sector

**Departmental** Result

## Enhanced relationships with, involvement of, and outcomes for Indigenous peoples

**Departmental Indicators**  # of agreements / arrangements involving Indigenous groups

# of Indigenous people trained through agreements / arrangements

# of Indigenous people employed through agreements / arrangements

and Reconciliation

**Indigenous Affairs** 

Aquaculture Salmonid Management Enhancement International Engagement

**Small Craft Harbours** 

Conservation and Protection

**Programs Contributing** to Indicators

**Aquatic Animal** Health

**Oceans** 

Management

Acknowledge

the historic

Biotechnology and Aquaculture Science Genomics

**Fisheries Science** 

**Fisheries Protection** 

Species at Risk

**Aquatic Ecosystems** Science

Oceans and Climate **Change Science** 

Marine Communications and **Traffic Services** 

**Shore-Based Asset** Readiness

Hydrographic Services, Data and **Science** 

Bring everyone

along-rights-

holders,

stakeholders.

provincial/territorial

governments,

**Canadians** 

**Search and Rescue** 

**Environmental** Response

Fleet Maintenance

relationship DFO-Coast Guard has had with Indigenous peoples

**Build on the** strengths of existing

relationships,

tools, and

processes

Indigenous peoples in the renewal of laws, policies, programs, and operational practices

> **Adjust** approaches based on geographic, cultural, social, economic, and capacity needs and differences

Support **Coordinate among** operational all DFO-Coast Guard predictability sectors and with and stability in other government the sector departments

capacity

Aggregate where feasible to facilitate efficient processes and help build institutional

Take the time required to build relationshipsreconciliation is a long-term commitment

Guiding **Principles** 







Action **Areas** 

**Enhance Internal Capacity to Deliver on Reconciliation** 

Negotiate Treaties and Non-**Transform Laws and Policies Treaty Agreements** 

communities

**Build Decision-Making and Collaborative Management Processes** 

**Enhance Economic Opportunities and Capacity** 

Aquatic **Ecosystems**  **Aquaculture Management** 

. Enhance collaboration with Indigenous groups in federal aquaculture management

 Involve Indigenous groups in the development and implementation of new policy, program, and legislative directions in the aquaculture sector

Fisheries Protection

• Involve Indigenous groups in the development and implementation of new policy, program, and operational initiatives in relation to fish and fish habitat conservation and protection

**Aquatic Invasive** Species at Risk **Species** 

. Build capacity of Share information on indigenous peoples through the Nature Legacy aquatic Fund and the Habitat invasive Stewardship Program species with Deepen the involvement Indigenous with Indigenous groups on groups and

**Oceans Management** 

 Work collaboratively with Indigenous organizations on national oceans management policy development

• Enhance the role of Indigenous governments and organizations in marine conservation through formal agreements and capacity building

 Enhance the role of Indigenous governments and organizations in marine spatial planning through formal agreements and capacity building

Chief **Financial** Officer

Management and Oversight

. Support ongoing tracking and reporting on reconciliation activities and results

**Financial Management** 

• Maintain and support ongoing tracking and reporting on spending related to Indigenous activities and issues

 Develop procedures to enable the use of honoraria and ceremonial gifts for Indigenous Elders

**Materiel Management** 

**Acquisition Management** 

• Develop a DFO-Coast Guard strategy to increase Indigenous procurement that aligns with the PSAB

. Identify and support solutions to the barriers to contracting with Indigenous communities

**Ecosystems** and Oceans Science

Aquatic Animal Health

Biotechnology and Genomics

prioritizing, conduct, and communicating of

. Increase Indigenous involvement in the

science and survey activities

Indigenous-Crown relations

Aquaculture Science

> Increase Indigenous involvement in the prioritizing, conduct, and communicating of science and survey activities

**Fisheries Science** 

Aquatic **Ecosystem** Science

Oceans and **Climate Change** Science

• Increase Indigenous involvement in the prioritizing, conduct, and communicating of science and survey activities

species at risk activities

Hydrographic Services, Data, and Science

. Involve Indigenous groups in new surveys or products covering traditional territories

 Invite local Indigenous groups to bring a cultural/ Indigenous Knowledge advisor onboard during surveys

Fisheries and Harbour Management

**Fisheries Management** 

• Involve Indigenous people in advancing Nunavut Fisheries Regulations Enhance Indigenous involvement in fisheries management processes

Co-develop a West Coast salmon allocation policy

 Undertake and support Indigenous-fisheries stakeholder relationship building initiatives

**International Engagement** 

• Seek to increase Indigenous involvement in international agreements and fora

. Seek to build the export capacity of Inuit and other Indigenous groups to access foreign markets

**Small Craft Harbours** 

Increase Involvement of Indigenous people in the Harbour **Authorities process**  **Conservation and Protection** 

• Enter into restorative justice protocols with Indigenous groups Enter into cooperative operational

enforcement agreements with Indigenous groups

Human Resources and Corporate Services

**DFO SECTORS** 

**HR Management** 

 Develop a departmental Indigenous recruitment and retention strategy Promote employee training offered by the Canada School of Public Service on reconciliation, Indigenous rights, and the history of

Information Management

and engagement

**Fisheries** 

**Economics and** 

**Statistics** 

· Increase employee Indigenous awareness

Information

Aquatic

**Ecosystems** 

**Economics** 

Facilitate leveraging of applications/data between departmental client groups

**Real Property** 

· Promote earlier engagement and greater involvement of Indigenous groups in significant construction projects

 Promote earlier notification of Indigenous groups in real property disposals

Strategic

**Policy** 

**Indigenous Affairs and Reconciliation** 

 Pursue opportunities for more flexible Indigenous rights recognition agreements Co-deliver Indigenous commercial and collaborative management programs

focussed on increasing and sustaining capacity building Develop a coordinated departmental approach to and tools for Indigenous

engagement and consultation Implement the DFO-Coast Guard Reconciliation Strategy in collaboration with

Indigenous partners Co-develop guidance for the Department on Indigenous Knowledge

Enhance Indigenous involvement in fisheries management processes

 Build capacity to undertake ongoing socioeconomic analysis of Indigenous issues

Operations Economics

Marine

 Produce up-to-date external web and intranet content related to Indigenous programs and reconciliation

 Conduct collaborative external communications/announcements with Indigenous partners

Communications

 Ensure reconciliation and partnerships with Indigenous peoples are a standing feature on departmental social media channels

Legal Services **Legal Services** 

· Continue to work collaboratively to implement DFO's Aboriginal Fishing Rights Litigation Strategy

DFO Legal Services to hold a workshop to discuss key initiatives that promote reconciliation and identify potential legal issues and solutions

Internal

**Internal Audit** 

Ensure consideration of Indigenous candidates for TB appointments on the Departmental Audit Committee

**Pacific** Region Salmonid Enhancement

Continue to work with First Nations to deliver on salmon harvesting, rebuilding, assessment, stewardship, and habitat restoration

National Strategies

**Icebreaking Services** 

Collaborative communication

and engagement with

N/A

Indigenous communities

Aids to Navigation • N/A

Waterways Management

• N/A

Marine Communications and Traffic Services

 Targeted hiring processes for MCTS officers

Search and Rescue

 More collaborative and productive relationships with Indigenous groups involved in search and rescue processes **Environmental Response** 

 More collaborative and productive relationships with Indigenous groups involved in environmental response processes

Operations

**Maritime Security** 

N/A

Shore-based Asset Readiness

Fleet Operational Capability

Integrated Technical Services

COAST GUARD SECTORS

Fleet Maintenance

. Enhance Indigenous engagement in the installation and maintenance of shore-based infrastructure

Integrated Business Manage<u>me</u>nt Services

Respond to identified training needs of specific Indigenous groups

Fleet Procurement

**Canadian Coast Guard College** 

Support the DFO-Coast Guard strategy to increase Indigenous procurement

Support the DFO-Coast Guard strategy to increase Indigenous procurement

Major Projects