

Distributed to AVICC Members May 31, 2013

**Re: Aquaculture Update and Invitation to Serve on Advisory Committees
(Note: June 14 Deadline)**

Due to the short response timeline, please forward to your Elected Officials and the CAO ASAP. Thank you.

Invitation to Serve on the Finfish and Shellfish Advisory Committees

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans is in the process of developing Aquaculture Management Advisory Committees (AMAC) for BC. These advisory committees will focus on high-level strategic issues such as aquaculture policy and management approaches; science priorities; conditions of licence, and broad public reporting, compliance and enforcement issues. Attached is an invitation for elected officials to serve on these committees. ***Note that there is a deadline of Friday, June 14 for a response.***

Update from the Aquaculture Working Group

Last fall, AVICC nominated four local government staff representatives to an Aquaculture Working Group initiated by the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations. They were: Mike Irg, Manager of Planning & Development with the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District; Terri Martin, Environmental Coordinator with the City of Campbell River; Courtney Simpson, Island Planner with Islands Trust; and Rick Davidge, CAO with the District of Port Hardy.

The first task was to establish the draft Terms of Reference. Executive reviewed and approved them at their April meeting. As outlined in the Terms of Reference, the Crown Land Aquaculture Application Working Group has the following purposes:

- Work cooperatively to build interagency relationships between local governments and provincial agencies.
- Seek opportunities to create administrative efficiencies for the parties.
- Develop education materials clarifying the specific roles of all agencies involved in the application review and approval processes and, the business practices specific to the application review and approval.
- Provide occasional information sharing opportunities for staff and elected local government representatives.

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Invitation for Members to Self-identify to Serve on the Finfish and Shellfish Aquaculture Advisory Committees

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans is in the process of implementing Aquaculture Management Advisory Committees (AMAC) for BC. These advisory committees will focus on high-level strategic issues such as aquaculture policy and management approaches; science priorities; conditions of licence, and broad public reporting, compliance and enforcement issues. The expectations will be that representatives will be knowledgeable about aquaculture operations, and be able to discuss issues at a high-level, in a strategic and balanced manner.

The time commitment would be a 3-year term, up to 4 meetings per year with the likelihood of 2 of the 4 meetings being able to be done virtually. Upcoming meeting dates have been tentatively identified (June 27 and September 26 for Shellfish to be held in Courtenay; September 25 for Finfish to be held in Vancouver).

UBCM has been invited to nominate two local government representatives to serve on each of the Finfish and Shellfish Advisory Committees. UBCM has invited both AVICC and the North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) to make recommendations for these representatives. Once appointed, UBCM will provide reimbursement of the expenses of two representatives' participation on each advisory committee according to their established policies.

AVICC Executive is inviting elected officials of AVICC members who have commercial aquaculture operations in their jurisdictions to self-identify for service on one or both these advisory committees. Executive will review these expressions of interest at their June 19 meeting and forward their recommendations immediately to UBCM. **Please complete the following and return ASAP, but no later than Friday, June 14.**

Name: _____

Position: _____

Local Government: _____

Email: _____

Telephone #: _____

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