

Region of Queens Municipality

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Region of Queens Municipality

March 19, 2012

Hon. Sterling Belliveau
Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture
PO Box 2223
Halifax, NS B3J 3C4

Dear Minister Belliveau,

Region of Queens Municipal Council continues to follow the finfish aquaculture matter in Port Mouton Bay with interest. On the basis of best information available, Council has reached a conclusion respecting the future of the industry in the bay which is, that there should not be one. This is inclusive of the site that has lain fallow for the past two years and which is proximate to Spectacle Island. This motion was passed unanimously at the regular meeting of Council on March 19, 2012. The resolution is as follows:

THAT the Council of the Region of Queens Municipality send a letter to Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture re-confirming its concern for the future of Port Mouton Bay and finfish farming in that area requesting that pursuant to the Fisheries and Coastal Resources Act of Nova Scotia Section 56(1)(e), the Minister designate Port Mouton Bay as a closed area not suitable for aquaculture.

AND FURTHER request that before any decision is made to renew, alter or grant new aquaculture licenses in Port Mouton Bay, that full and open public hearings be held in the area affected, including presentations by provincial scientists to address community concerns;

AND FURTHER that this letter be forwarded to The Premier, Queens MLA, and leaders of provincial opposition parties.

I trust this motion adequately explains the position of Council and of the many Queens residents who have been responsibly active in opposing finfish aquaculture in Port Mouton Bay be it pursued either by an existing permit holder or a permit applicant for a new site.

I thank you in advance for your favourable consideration.

Hon. John G. Leefe DCL

ccPremier Hon. Darrell Dexter
Hon. Stephen McNeil, Leader, Liberal Party of Nova Scotia
Hon. Jamie Baillie, Leader, PC Party of Nova Scotia
Mr. Peter Muttart, Friends of Port Mouton Bay