

Mr. Paul Sprout

Chair, Ministerial Advisory Panel
Last-In, First-Out Policy for the Northern shrimp fishery
Department of Fisheries and Oceans

Mr. Sprout:

RE: Last in First Out Policy (LIFO)

The Board of Directors of the Newfoundland and Labrador Employers' Council is a business advocacy association that lobbies to enhance the ability of employers to contribute to the economic growth and prosperity of the province. We are a member based organization and we have members involved in the fishery on both sides of the LIFO issue.

Whatever the final recommendation your panel may make, we encourage you to give maximum consideration to the long-term best interest of the industry and the province's international competitiveness.

There is a long history in our province of protectionist public policy. This has resulted in a province with poor productivity and innovation scores when benchmarked against our competitors. Protected industries do not produce global leaders. We need to be more competitive if we are to maximize the value of this resource for this and future generations.

This past year we contracted the Conference Board of Canada to study the competitiveness of our province and make recommendation on how to improve our status. The report can be found at <http://nlec.nf.ca/current-issues/productivity-competiveness/>. We encourage you to consider the report's findings in your deliberations.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me at 709 368-6532 ext. 222 or ralexander@nlec.nf.ca.

Sincerely,



Richard Alexander
Executive Director

