

ABOUT

Small craft harbours are the heart of many communities and the fishing industry. Owned by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), they are managed by harbour authorities, representing the local population.

We are incorporated, not-for-profit organizations. Our Board of Directors and members are volunteers. We represent the needs of our harbour users and our community's interest.

We collaborate with DFO's Small Craft Harbours Program to ensure the continued success and well-being of our local harbours.



GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL HARBOUR



www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sch-ppb/index-eng.html

LOCAL MANAGEMENT
LOCAL DECISIONS
LOCAL GOVERNANCE
LOCAL IMPACT

THE HARBOUR AUTHORITY PROGRAM



DID YOU KNOW?

Small craft harbours across Canada are managed and maintained mostly by volunteers, in collaboration with Fisheries and Oceans Canada.



Pictured: Toney River harbour, Nova Scotia

WHO WE ARE

Our Board of Directors are typically composed of fish harvesters, representatives of municipalities, Indigenous peoples, entrepreneurs, industry workers and family members. We serve as ambassadors of our coastal communities and are proud of the work accomplished. We are motivated by our sense of duty, and by the contributions and accomplishments we make in communities.

We represent over 5,000 volunteers across the country



The harbour authority program in numbers

560 harbour authorities **700** harbours managed by HA



1988: Creation of the Harbour Authority Program



2001: Creation of the National Harbour Authority Advisory Council



2008: Creation of the Harbour Authority Recognition Program

200,000 volunteering hours = **100** full-time positions

WHAT WE DO

- We are responsible for managing, operating and maintaining one or more public fishing harbours through a lease agreement with the Small Craft Harbours program.
- We provide services to harbour users.
- We keep harbour facilities in good repair by performing inspections and repairs.
- We establish and enforce rules and harbour policies.
- We keep the wharf and property tidy and free of hazards.
- We are responsible for allocating berthage and collecting fees from users to cover operation costs. Fees collected are reinvested in the harbour.



Harbour authorities play a vital role in the economic and social life of many communities that depend on local harbour facilities.

OUR IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY

As harbour authorities, we play many important roles:

Voices

We are a voice for our harbour and its users. Composed of members of the local population, we understand the needs and realities of the harbour, and what's best for our users.

Champions

We champion and foster positive working relationships. We work with governments, municipalities, other harbour authorities, the industry, fishers associations and community organizations.

Connectors

We bring people together. We create a sense of belonging in the region.

Leaders

We help ensure decisions are made locally. We ensure that decisions concerning the planning, operation and maintenance of harbour facilities reflect local needs and aspirations.

Innovators

We are innovators and change agents. We often carry out development projects that can benefit the region.