

**Celebrating 25 Years of industry solidarity**

# **Annual Report for 2023**

**Advancing the Sustainable Growth and  
Prosperity of Quality Farmed Seafood Production**

*Prince Edward Island*

**AQUACULTURE  
 ALLIANCE**

# Aquaculture Farm Assistance Program

CONFIDENTIAL, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLING SERVICES FOR GROWERS, THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILY, AND EMPLOYEES

## PROVIDES HELP IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- Stress and anxiety
- Trauma/critical illness
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- Family Matters
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- Career counselling

## COUNSELLOR CONTACTS

- Frank Bulger 902-626-9787
- Wendy Holm 902-786-4656
- Jan Henry 782-377-4506
- Toll-Free 1-800-736-8006



## **Alliance President's Report**

Thank you all for taking the time to be here today and for your support of the PEI Aquaculture Alliance!

I am pleased to report that 2023 was a relatively calm year in comparison to the events that we have faced over the last number of years. For the Alliance, much like the industry at large, it was a year to compose ourselves and rebuild after considerable time in rough waters.

The 2023 season was a good one on the water and the Alliance was busy here on land, with a lot of time and effort being put into advocacy and programs in the wake of Fiona. The Alliance partnered with the PEI Watershed Alliance and its regional groups to undertake a massive cleanup which removed and disposed tons of debris from our shorelines spanning the Island from tip to tip. Financial support for industry losses have not rolled out as quickly as hoped but some claims have been closed and we hope everything will be settled in the next few months.

Boundary amendments have allowed oyster farmers to better utilize space on their leases in order to expand and become more efficient. The Farmers of the Sea public trust campaign continued to expose our membership to tourists and community members who may not always understand what it takes to farm the product that is served on their plate. The AAF/OIT program was officially closed out, our Environmental Code of Practices was updated, and we undertook projects that will eventually lead to cleaner energy being used in our vessels and facilities.

The Alliance has and will continue to offer training programs for members and their staff to build their knowledge and skill sets in. We also continue to offer access to mental health support with certified counsellors and I encourage everyone to remind your staff that this is a free anonymous service that is available to them. We have produced fridge magnets in order to keep the contact details front and center and everyone should keep them posted in their workplace.

My deep appreciation goes out to Peter Warris who's repeatedly bailed the boat and maintained course for the Alliance and our sector boards over the last 17 years and has finally taken the helm as our Executive Director. I welcome Syia to the Alliance who has taken on an administrative role and extend thanks from all of our board and membership to staff, as well as Jenny and Doug, for your ongoing contribution to our organization.

While the importance of our industry can sometimes feel overshadowed by other sectors or priorities, I would like to acknowledge and thank those in the public sector who are eager to listen, learn, and support our industry to advance and grow. Some have moved on, others have more recently come in, but we have a core group who have always been there for us. You know who you are, and I would not normally name names, however I do want to mention Neil McNair who has been the pillar outside our organization, and I simply cannot express my gratitude for his time and dedication to our sector. I hope Neil can come back to his role following his medical leave but whichever way the current pulls you, I thank you on behalf of us all.

Looking forward, markets are strong, and our products maintain a reputation as the benchmark for top-tier quality. Our industry members are passionate, want to grow, and are among the most innovative and hard working than I've seen anywhere else in the world. I believe this is a recipe for success and we are poised for a bright future. The world truly is our oyster, or mussel if that's what you are into.

This is my last term as the Alliance rep serving the IOGG board and therefore this is my last term as President of the PEI Aquaculture Alliance. Our organization is in good financial shape, and we have a great group of board members who will continue to lead us forward, so we are in good hands.

With this being my last time to address industry at large, I will reiterate what I have done each year in the past and advocate that your contributions are instrumental to the working and success of the Alliance. Whether it be regulatory changes, issues such as movement of invasive species, a long-term vision for the allocation of leases in our bays and estuaries, future funding projects, or building resources within the Alliance itself, we rely on your collaboration of ideas, thoughts, time, and financial contributions to address any such challenges or opportunities in order to move ourselves forward.

I thank each and every one of you who serve on boards and committees for your commitment to the organization and to each member and your staff for your commitment to our industry. I have made many great relationships and learned so much in the last 5 years on the Alliance Board and I am honoured to have the opportunity.

Best wishes to you all in the 2024 season and beyond!

Sincerely,

Jesse Fortune, President

PEI Aquaculture Alliance



# Message from the Minister Honourable Cory Deagle

The aquaculture industry of Prince Edward Island has worked extremely hard to build up a reputation for the highest quality seafood products. Our industry is respected at regional, national and international levels.

Over the last year, I've had the opportunity to visit farms on water and on land witnessing amazing innovations as well as hardworking Islanders doing what they love. As an important piece of our rural landscape, I am impressed with the sector's resiliency and contribution to the Island economy.

The Department of Fisheries, Tourism, Sport and Culture, through the Aquaculture Division, continues to be supportive of many of the initiatives undertaken by the Prince Edward Island Aquaculture Alliance and its members. Once again, we are pleased to offer funding opportunities, as well as work collaboratively on projects and provide information from our monitoring programs.

We look forward to another year of working with the aquaculture industry, both with the Prince Edward Island Aquaculture Alliance and directly with members. Ensuring the prosperity and the long-term sustainability of the industry is a priority for my Department.

I wish you much success in 2024.



**Hon. Cory Deagle**

Minister of Fisheries, Tourism, Sport and Culture



**Thank You to our Supporting Members!**



Dennis Motors - [www.dennismotors.ca](http://www.dennismotors.ca)



Enterprise Shippagan - [www.entship.ca](http://www.entship.ca)



Gaudet's Engine Repair - [www.facebook.com/GaudetsSmallEngineRepair](https://www.facebook.com/GaudetsSmallEngineRepair)



# Go Deep International Inc.

Go Deep International Inc. - <https://godeepintl.com>

# ocean farmr

Oceanfarmr – [www.oceanfarmr.com](http://www.oceanfarmr.com)



RAP Technologies Inc. - <http://raptechs.com>

## Cultured Mussel Growers Association President's Report

Dear Cultured Mussel Growers Association Members and AGM Attendees,

2023 was a relatively stable year for the Island's mussel aquaculture industry, though there continue to be issues that remain challenging to individual growers in their own bays.

Vase tunicate (*Ciona*) continues to cause issues for the industry, outside of the day-to-day spraying requirements in areas where it has already established. The most recent report of *Ciona* was from the mouth of the Bideford River in the northwest corner of Malpeque Bay. This remains to be verified by DFO and the Province, however, should it establish there it will mean all major mussel growing areas will be infested, apart from Nine Mile.

In the future *Ciona* may not be the problem it currently is for seed transfers, but we must be vigilant for new tunicate species, or other AIS, that may occur. Climate change, and warming waters, leave us vulnerable in this area. I would like to remind all growers, mussel, and oyster alike, to take every precaution when moving seed and product from one area to another, and to clean your boats and gear thoroughly! Re-educate yourselves and your crews, especially the new, younger staff, about AIS and the proper procedures and treatments.

There has been a resurgence Sea Duck predation of mussel seed, often in areas that had not been impacted as much in the past. Past research in this area has not shown any "silver bullet" to solve the problem. Grower vigilance and on lease activity seems to be one of the main ways to protect the crop. The reduction in ice cover we have seen in recent years may make this more of an issue in the future.

Diversification of seed collection is necessary not just because of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). Poor collection, duck predation, storm damage to seed lines and a reduction in seed availability from other growers, as leases change back to full time oyster production, are all issues that impact seed security.

DFO Leasing had approved new seed collection areas in response to the *Ciona* expansion in recent years. Within industry there has been continued discussion about the ability to expand further into new seed collection areas, and the CMGA has formally requested that new applications be accepted by DFO, at the Shellfish Aquaculture Management Advisory Committee (SAMAC).

The damage caused by Storm Fiona and the claims process through the Red Cross is an ongoing issue. While some growers have received approvals and



some funds, others are still waiting patiently for their claims to be resolved. We appreciate all the hard work that the Province have done in trying to assist the industry with this recovery process. Nevertheless, the time it has taken to process the claims has caused major problems for some growers. The Farm Management Plan template that the Alliance is developing will hopefully assist growers keep better records in the future.

Thank you as well for the continued support for the association from all Mussel Growers and Processors, especially all our volunteer Directors. Special thanks to the PEIAA team for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

Shane Gillis

President, Cultured Mussel Growers Association



## Island Oyster Growers Group President's Report

Dear Island Oyster Growers Group Members,

When I was thinking about writing the annual speech for the year, the first thing that came to mind was the progress that has been made over the last two decades in the oyster growing industry. The markets are strong, the demand is high, and the quality of the product is at its best. The potential for growth and the future of oyster farming continues to peak.

Over the past year, we worked with provincial and federal government on many issues, one being lease boundary amendments. Many applications have been approved. This has provided many farmers with better ground which will increase production and future growing opportunities.

Red Cross claims are being approved and funds are being distributed to those of us who were affected by Hurricane Fiona. We were lucky enough to catch a break with Hurricane Lee last fall, however I feel that more planning for weather related incidents is important.

In 2023, the alliance offered a number of training opportunities for new and existing businesses. As the industry grows, I encourage everyone to take advantage of these programs.

In closing, I would like to welcome our new administration and communication assistant, Sya, to the team.

Thank you to the board of directors. Your dedication and contribution is enhancing the entire industry.

As always, thanks Peter Warris for your continued service with the Alliance and IOGG. Your work ethic and knowledge of industry needs has been instrumental to our growth as farmers.

Wishing all growers a successful 2024 season.

Thank you.

Darcy Foley

President, Island Oyster Growers Group



## **Finfish Association President's Report**

The aquaculture industry continues to be a thriving, growing industry on PEI, and although small, the finfish sector continues to make an impact by providing jobs and contributing overall to the Island economy.

The Center for Aquaculture Technologies Canada (CATC) has gone through big changes in 2023 and will continue in 2024 with a new branding campaign as well as a new company name. CATC hired a new CEO in November, Myrna Gillis from Halifax. Myrna is the owner of Aqualites, a large cannabis production company; Ms. Gillis aspires to move to PEI fulltime. CATC also hired a new VP of Business Development, Karl Reines from Norway, he starts his new remote role on February 1, 2024.

After some hurdles, CATC is finally getting closer to a positive outcome with CFIA to allow them to import shrimp. CATC are currently ordering equipment to construct a Shrimp Broodstock Facility within their Victoria site which will be ready for shrimp in summer of 2024. CATC's FeedTech center has also started producing commercial feeds for companies in North America and the outlook looks very positive for future growth in 2024.

AquaBounty Canada (ABC) is currently expanding its egg production capabilities to prepare for Farm #3 expansion in the US and to supply eggs to conventional growers. In addition to the company's three RAS facilities on Prince Edward Island, ABC has also invested in optimizing their quality control assays and methods. ABC also continues to invest in research and development, focusing on fish health, nutrition, gene editing, genetics, and breeding.

Ocean Trout Farms (OTF) has had a successful fall shipping season! This is the first season that OTF has used a well boat, stationed in North Sydney to help transfer smolt from their hatcheries in PEI and St. Peters, NS, to stock smolt to their marine sites in Newfoundland. OTF has also sent fry to their sister hatchery in St. Peters Nova Scotia, while also sending fry to another contract hatchery, to further their production numbers while in the midst of production growth and renovations.

The company has also been very fortunate to grow their team at Ocean Trout Farms and are very excited to welcome Mike Murray to the team! Mike has brought with him a wealth of knowledge and experience plus a great sense of humor, kindness, and Momma Murray's extra treats! I know most of you have known Mike for many years and OTF are so happy to have Mike on their team and it is great for the finfish association for Mike to remain in the aquaculture industry here in PEI.

Mowi Canada East continued to operate and improve their site infrastructure and biosecurity during 2023. At the Dover site, Mowi has been implementing improvements on their current holding tanks and installing automatic oxygen monitoring with full oxygen and level alarms. Improvements have been made to the incubation system at the site and alarm monitoring upgrades have been implemented.

In Cardigan, Mowi is currently in the process in building a new RAS unit for the early fry/par production this will enable Cardigan to become self-sufficient in its production. This will also increase their production by 50%.

Mowi also have built new effluent systems to remove all the solids from the out flow at both sites. These systems will be in operation by February 2024.

The Finfish Association continued communications with various regulatory bodies regarding fish health certification requirements and changes, including our Provincial Agriculture and Fisheries Department, CFIA, and our DFO Introduction and Transfer Committee.

During 2023 discussions continued in earnest with the Province regarding the development of the Provincial Aquaculture Act; the Working Group held meetings for the Public Consultation process.

We are excited to see new training opportunities coming available for our teams in 2024 and want to thank Holland College for facilitating training for our industry.

We want to thank our small but powerful team at the Aquaculture Alliance for their hard work and dedication and we would like to wish everyone a safe and prosperous 2024.

Dawn Runighan

President, PEI Finfish Association



## Alliance Annual Activity Update

This section will briefly review the issues that were worked on and highlight some the activities the Alliance participated in over this year. Each activity links back to our Strategic Plan 22-25, and its four strategic priorities.

### STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Four strategic priorities guide the priorities of the Alliance:

1. LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY	2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
3. MEMBER ENGAGEMENT	4. SUSTAINABLE ORGANIZATION

The Alliance continues to rely on the support and enthusiastic participation of all our members to continue as an effective representative of the PEI aquaculture industry; addressing the issues that impact you, communicating your priorities to research partners, and advocating on your behalf with both Provincial and Federal Government.

### Projects

The Alliance secured and participated in multiple different projects in 2023, all directly related to industry priorities. If you have any questions regarding these projects, please do not hesitate to contact us at the Alliance office.

### **Development of Alternative Fuel Vessels for the PEI Aquaculture Industry**

Many PEI aquaculture operations have expressed an interest in investigating alternative energy propulsion systems for their vessels. The PEI Aquaculture Alliance (PEIAA), together with two industry partners, obtained funding to retain AKA Energy Systems to undertake the initial data collection on vessel usage and power requirements under regular farming operations. This initial data collection phase is a necessary step to establish their operational needs, determine potential retrofit opportunities, and explore alternative energy options.

## **Aquaculture Farming the Waters Exhibit**

The Alliance, partnered with PEI Museum and Heritage Foundation (PEIMHF), was successful in obtaining funding to facilitate an aquaculture exhibit at Eptek Art & Culture Centre in Summerside, which opened in November 2023 through to February 2024.

The exhibit featured travelling displays, developed by Ingenium ([www.ingeniumcanada.org](http://www.ingeniumcanada.org)) from the Canada Agriculture and Food Museum in Ottawa, and local information sourced from the PEI Aquaculture Alliance and its members.

The exhibit featured an opening reception, and a presentation from Jason Woodside on the natural history of PEI Oysters.

## **Adapting to Changing Environments Conference**

This two-day conference in March 2023 studied the changing workplace environment on day 1 with presentations on

- Workforce and Population Trends
- Immigration & Newcomer supports
- Workplace Adaptations
- Recruitment & Retention

Day 2 explored the new realities of our changing climate, including

- Measuring the carbon footprint of PEI aquaculture
- Post Tropical Storm Fiona
- PEI Net Zero 2040 Framework and the Climate Adaptation Plan
- Marine Hybrid Power and Alternative Fuels
- Effects of ocean warming and acidification

The meeting also encompassed all the Provincial Sector Association (PSA) Annual General Meetings (AGM).

A copy of all the presentations is available upon request.

## **Review and Update the PEI Aquaculture Environmental Codes of Practice (AECOP)**

The objectives for this project were to review AECOP to identify gaps and updates needed, prepare revisions and updates as required and print and distribute the revised document.

### ***Targeted Stakeholder Input (May 2023 to November 2023)***

#### **Government regulators:**

- Fisheries and Oceans, Canada
- Transport Canada
- CFIA
- Environment & Climate Change
- Canadian Wildlife Service
- PEI DFTSC
- PEI DEECA

#### **agencies &**

Non-governmental organizations & community groups:

- Ducks Unlimited
- L'nuey
- Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI
- Island Nature Trust
- PEI Watershed Alliance
- National Conservancy of Canada

### ***Highlights of Changes in Shellfish Sections***

- Removed the outdated Appendix: "Plans to Reduce Waterfowl/ Aquaculture Interactions."
- Added updated waterfowl interaction considerations throughout relevant sections of the AECOP
- Integrated the PEI AA Policy on the use of Styrofoam floatation.
- Added new section on disaster preparedness.

### ***Highlights of Changes in Finfish Sections***

- Increased emphasis on engaging and communicating with local stakeholders, like watershed groups.
- Increased emphasis on effluent monitoring
- Clarified proper mortality disposal.
- Added new section on disaster preparedness.

## **Developing a Template Aquaculture Farm Management Plan**

The PEI Aquaculture Alliance has retained a contractor to develop a template of a user-friendly Aquaculture Farm Management Plan (AFMP) that our members will be able to customise to their own companies / operations.

Then purpose of the AFMP is to allow members to collect important data on their operations for the purpose of documenting the scope of their operations, including such factors as:

- Lease numbers, sizes, locations, and configurations
- Gear (cages, bags, lines etc.) on each lease
- Product inventory on each lease (per cage and or per line), including species, estimated year class, and / or size
- Harvest amounts and values from each lease in a set time period
- Gear on shore
- Boats and other water-based equipment
- Shore based infrastructure (buildings and equipment)

These electronic forms will be simple and concise, and automatically enter completed information into a cloud-based database (e.g. Google Docs) and be able to produce reports (e.g. DFO's annual lease report).

A key item for this project is that any forms developed will be formatted to be printed, and completed and filed as hard copy if the user wishes to do so.

## **Post Storm Fiona Enhanced Shoreline Cleanup of Prince Edward Island Bays and Estuaries**

The objectives of this project were to support and enhance the existing shoreline cleanup efforts of local Watershed groups by ensuring that adequate staff and when necessary, specialised equipment, were available to effectively deal with the debris and waste left by Hurricane Fiona.

Also, to enable communication and public participation in shoreline cleanups by coordinating communication of public reports of problem areas in need of attention, and further to develop a mapping tool to both chart those areas that were addressed and indicate areas still in need of attention.

Coordinated by the PEI Watershed Alliance, the 24 watershed groups covered a total of 509km and collected 20.9MT of garbage!



## **Oyster Aquaculture Infrastructure and Training (OIT) Program**

This \$4.8-million-dollar program has now completed. The purpose of Oyster Infrastructure and Training (OIT) Program was to assist oyster aquaculture operations to:

1. Purchase of equipment intended to address labour shortages through increased product handling capabilities, expand oyster seed rearing capacity, enhance traceability and record keeping, or improve the maintenance of product quality during harvesting and transport.
2. Access training and educational opportunities to enhance oyster grower's professional and business skills and to prepare their employees with necessary basic skills.

The Program was a great success with over 150 approved projects over the four years.

## **Travel funding to the Northeastern Aquaculture Conference & Exposition (NACE).**

The Alliance was able to secure partial funding to cover travel expenses for up to twelve growers to attend the Northeastern Aquaculture Conference & Exposition (NACE) in Providence, Rhode Island.

This biennial conference was created in 1998 by the Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center with the goal of bringing together producers, service providers, vendors, researchers, students and managers from across the northeast region to discuss pressing issues and relevant research on aquaculture.

## **Aquaculture Training Program**

Over the past three years the Alliance, through funding support from the PEI Department of Fisheries and Communities, has been able to subsidise a number of different training courses, including Basic IT, Hydraulic Boom Safety, Forklift, and Recirculating Aquaculture Systems (RAS).

If you have done any training in 2023, or have something in mind for 2024, please get in touch!

## **Farmers of the Sea Public Trust Campaign**

Over the past three years, the Farmers of the Sea (FOTS) campaign has continued to educate Islanders about all mussel, oyster, and finfish farming, and so increase public awareness and acceptance of the aquaculture industry.

### Campaign Objectives

1. Increase Islanders awareness on the PEI Aquaculture Industry.
2. Increase the public opinion and trust within the PEI Aquaculture Industry.
3. Promote the industry:
  - Good for the community
  - Good for the environment
  - Good for dinner

Over the summer of 2023 PEI Aquaculture Alliance attended multiple community events and festivals to further promote the industry and the campaign in the local area (see summer activities below). New promotional materials and recipe cards were developed, as well a continued focus on the industry and the people involved on the various social media platforms.

PEI AQUACULTURE  
**FARMERS**  
OF THE SEA

## **Member Services**

The Alliance is a member-based organisation, organised around the needs of our members. As such we sometimes have to quickly respond to new situations that impact the aquaculture industry sectors that we represent. These situations can often be dramatic and overwhelming; and offering administrative support to our members, and only our members, is one way that we can demonstrate our value in these times of crisis.

### **Storm Fiona**

We have been consistently communicating with the Provincial government, and the Red Cross, on how we can enable this process to move forwards as quickly as possible and continue to monitor the situation on behalf of our members.

### **Lease Reconfiguration Applications**

Another way we have been assisting our members is in helping with the mapping and graphics aspects of their applications to DFO Leasing, for lease reconfigurations, as well as the subsequent application to Transport Canada.

## **Communications**

As well as our ongoing Farmers of the Sea campaign, and regular newsletters, email, and social media interactions with members, the Alliance regularly participates in presentations to High School classes, including virtual CEO presentations that are recorded and made available to all classes on the Island

This year we were lucky enough to be asked to participate in the “Aquaculture – Farming the Waters” exhibit which opened in Summerside at the Eptek Centre in November 2023.

We are also fortunate to be invited to sit on the PEI Agriculture Awareness Committee / Agriculture in the Classroom, which is a well- established group with the mandate to educate the general public, and especially school age children, about their local agriculture industry. Our participation in events such as Open Farm Day and Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month (CALM) helps to introduce aquaculture as a normal farming activity, different from our terrestrial cousins in many ways but also with a lot in common.

## Summer Industry Promotion Events

The Alliance participated in the following events, to promote the aquaculture industry and the Farmer of the Sea campaign. In some cases, we also support industry involvement, as in Open Farm Day. If you are interested in participating in a local community festival or similar, to promote your business, please get in touch.

- National Indigenous Peoples Day, June 21<sup>st</sup>
- DiverseCity in Summerside, July 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Ag Bonanza, July 28<sup>th</sup>
- Tyne Valley Oyster Festival, August 4<sup>th</sup>
- Shellfish Festival, September 14-17<sup>th</sup>
- Open Farm Day, September 17<sup>th</sup>
- Farm Day in the City, October 1<sup>st</sup>

## 2023 Alliance Member Golf Tournament

This was the first time ever we have had to reschedule the tournament due to the weather. I guess in the past we have always just been lucky! The tournament took place on October 4<sup>th</sup> and fortunately most of our original teams were able to make it.



Thank you to our Gold Sponsor, OysterGro, and all our other sponsors and prize donators.

**Save the Date! - The Golf Tournament will be back on August 28<sup>th</sup> this year, bigger than ever! Hope to see you there.**

## **Committees and Boards**

The staff and Directors of the PEIAA and the PSAs participate in a number of different committees and boards to represent the best interests of each industry sector.

### **PEI Shellfish Aquaculture Management Advisory Committee (SAMAC)**

SAMAC is the principal forum for industry and both levels of government to discuss ongoing leasing and other issues impacting the shellfish aquaculture industry (e.g., Aquatic Invasive Species). The Cultured Mussel Growers Association (CMGA) and the Island Oyster Growers Group (IOGG) each have two representatives on the committee, as well as one from the Alliance. This committee meets on a quarterly basis.

### **PEI Shellfish Working Group**

The PEI Shellfish Working Group (SWG) is focused on Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program (CSSP) issues, including waste-water treatment plants (WWTP) and related infrastructure, water quality monitoring and harvest area classifications. Membership includes both Federal and Provincial CSSP partners and also municipalities across the Island. Both the CMGA and IOGG have one rep, as well as the Alliance. This WG meets twice a year, spring and fall.

### **PEI International Shellfish Festival - <https://peishellfish.com>**

As a joint effort of the PEI Aquaculture Alliance and the PEI Shellfish Association, the PEI International Shellfish Festival is organized by an active board and under the project management of Versatile Management Group. The PEI Aquaculture Alliance has 1 voting and 1 non-voting seat on the Board. The board meets periodically in the off-season, and monthly to bi-weekly as the festival activities ramp up in late summer.

### **Team Food Island Advisory Committee - [www.teamseafood.ca](http://www.teamseafood.ca)**

The PEI Aquaculture Alliance joined the Team Seafood Advisory Committee in 2020 after receiving approval to include aquaculture growers as part of the student bursary program. Funded by Skills PEI this collaboration has now expanded to include the PEI Agriculture Sector Council's Farm Team, renamed Team Food Island, administered by the PEI Seafood Processors.

## **PEI Agriculture Awareness Committee / Agriculture in the Classroom**

- [www.peiagsc.ca/awareness](http://www.peiagsc.ca/awareness)

We are truly fortunate to be invited to sit on this committee, which is a well-established group with the mandate to educate the general public, and especially school age children, about their local agriculture industry. Our participation in events such as Open Farm Day and Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month (CALM) helps to introduce aquaculture as a normal farming activity, different from our terrestrial cousins in many ways but also with a lot in common.

### **Memberships**

**Canadian Aquaculture Industry Association (CAIA)** -  
[www.aquaculture.ca](http://www.aquaculture.ca)

CAIA is our industry association at the national level and helps to promote and advocate for all the different sectors on the industry with the Federal government in Ottawa and support the Provincial associations in their efforts. The Alliance currently has a seat on the CAIA board for 2020-21.

**Canadian Organics Seafood Association (COSA)** -  
[www.canadianorganicseafood.com](http://www.canadianorganicseafood.com)

COSA is a relatively new association, with members from across the country in both the aquaculture and processing sectors. Since the Canadian Organic Aquaculture Standards became part of the Safe Food for Canadians Act there is a lot more focus on Organic production. COSA communicates with organic producers and associations with organic members and helps coordinate feedback on issues impacting them.

**Canadian Centre for Food Integrity (CCFI)** -  
[www.foodintegrity.ca](http://www.foodintegrity.ca)

Consumers are more interested in how their food is grown, processed, and brought to market than ever before. The Canadian Centre for Food Integrity helps our food system ensure it is doing the right things to build trust by providing research, resources, training and dialogue.

## **Alliance Supplier Members**

### **Supporting Members**

Dennis Motors – [www.dennismotors.ca](http://www.dennismotors.ca)

Entreprises Shippagan Ltd. – [www.entship.ca](http://www.entship.ca)

Gaudet's Engine Repair – [www.gaudetsenginerepair.com](http://www.gaudetsenginerepair.com)

Go Deep International Inc. – <https://godeepintl.com>

oceanfarmr – [www.oceanfarmr.com](http://www.oceanfarmr.com)

RAP Technologies Inc. – <http://raptechs.com>

### **Tier 2 Supplier Members**

Bio Food Tech – [www.biofoodtech.ca](http://www.biofoodtech.ca)

Cooke Insurance Group – [www.cooke.ca](http://www.cooke.ca)

Diversified Divers Inc. – [www.diversquarters.com](http://www.diversquarters.com)

MasterNet Ltd. – [www.masternetltd.com](http://www.masternetltd.com)

Mauser Packaging Solutions – <https://mauserpackaging.com>

R&M Welding Ltd. – [www.rmweldingltd.com](http://www.rmweldingltd.com)

Sommers Generator Systems – [www.sommersgen.com](http://www.sommersgen.com)

### **Tier 1 Supplier Members**

Atlantic Fish Specialties – [www.truenorthseafood.com](http://www.truenorthseafood.com)

Blue Trace – [www.blue-trace.com](http://www.blue-trace.com)

Centre for Aquaculture Technologies Canada – [www.aquatechcenter.com](http://www.aquatechcenter.com)

Clean Valley CIC – [www.cleanvalleycic.com](http://www.cleanvalleycic.com)

Farm Credit Canada – [www.fcc.ca](http://www.fcc.ca)

Grandview Welding Ltd. – [www.grandviewwelding.ca](http://www.grandviewwelding.ca)

Holland College – [www.hollandcollege.com](http://www.hollandcollege.com)

Maritime Paper Products – [www.maritimepaper.com](http://www.maritimepaper.com)

MasterNet Ltd. – [www.masternetltd.com](http://www.masternetltd.com)

McInnes Cooper – [www.mcinnescooper.com](http://www.mcinnescooper.com)

Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI – [www.mcpei.ca](http://www.mcpei.ca)

Mitchell McConnell Insurance – [www.mitchellmccconnell.com](http://www.mitchellmccconnell.com)

Modail Mara – [www.modailmara.ca](http://www.modailmara.ca)

Native Council of PEI – <https://ncpei.com>

Oyster Cage Commander – [www.oystercagecommander.com](http://www.oystercagecommander.com)

OysterGro Aqua Farming System – [www.oystergro.com](http://www.oystergro.com)

Peake & McInnis Ltd. – [www.peake-mcinnis.com](http://www.peake-mcinnis.com)

PEI Bag Company – [www.peibag.com](http://www.peibag.com)

Rainbow Net & Rigging – [www.rainbownetrigging.com](http://www.rainbownetrigging.com)

Spartan Industrial Marine – [www.spartanmarine.ca](http://www.spartanmarine.ca)

Sustain Aqua – [www.sustainaqua.ca](http://www.sustainaqua.ca)

Sweeney International Marine Corp – [www.simcorp.ca](http://www.simcorp.ca)

TnT Marketing Inc. – <https://www.tnttrainingsolutions.com>

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