

# MEDIA RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **UFCA granted intervenor status in legal challenge of fish sales regulations**

**HALIFAX, NS** – Earlier today, the Nova Scotia Supreme Court granted the Unified Fisheries Conservation Alliance (UFCA) intervenor status in the Potlotek First Nation court case challenging regulations that govern the sale of fish and fish products in Nova Scotia. This is the second successful outcome for the UFCA, who earlier this fall, achieved intervenor status in the Potlotek First Nation’s court case challenging Fisheries and Oceans Canada’s (DFO) regulation and enforcement of Indigenous fishing activities.

“The commercial fishing industry is vital to Atlantic Canada’s economy and any departure from a scientifically based conservation regime could put the sustainability of the entire industry at risk,” says Colin Sproul, President of UFCA.

“Achieving intervenor status in these court cases will ensure the Nova Scotia Supreme Court has the most complete information available for consideration,” says Sproul, adding that the UFCA’s goal is to work constructively with the government and First Nations to inform and understand viewpoints and ultimately establish regulatory certainty that ensures the conservation of the fishing industry for generations to come.

The UFCA recognizes and acknowledges the importance of cooperation with Indigenous communities, and that Indigenous fishermen have a right to fish for commercial, food, social, and ceremonial purposes. However, common commercial harvest rules must ultimately and clearly form part of an integrated set of regulations to address the collective industrialized harvest capacity that is capable of overwhelming otherwise renewable resources, to effectively ensure fishery sustainability and a fair and respectful fishery for all.

### **About the Unified Fisheries Conservation Alliance**

The Unified Fisheries Conservation Alliance (UFCA) represents thousands of independent, multi-species commercial fishermen and women, fishery associations and associated businesses from across Atlantic Canada. The UFCA was formed to bring together many participants in the Atlantic fishery to speak with one balanced, coordinated and moderate voice.

For more information, visit [www.ufca.ca](http://www.ufca.ca)

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### **Media Contact:**

Colin Sproul, President

Unified Fisheries Conservation Alliance

[ufcacontact@gmail.com](mailto:ufcacontact@gmail.com)