

# Listuguj Lobster Fishing Plan & Listuguj Lobster Law Community Engagement Summary

April 2019

## General Overview

For the past three years, the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government (LMG) Natural Resources department has been focused on creating and implementing a lobster fishing plan for the community. The priority was to ensure that the plan would be rooted in Mi'gmaq social and cultural values, reflective of local and traditional knowledge, economically sustainable, ecologically responsible, accessible to community members and demonstrative of Listuguj's ability to manage, monitor and govern its own lobster fishery.



This crucial work commenced in February 2017 when the LMG Fisheries department began work on developing a lobster fishing/harvesting plan for the community. Immediately, the LMG Fisheries department acknowledged the benefits of using a community-led planning approach and began an intensive community engagement process with Listuguj members. There were two main objectives for the community engagement process. First, educate participants on the current conditions surrounding lobster fishing in Listuguj. Second, collect insight, knowledge and feedback from Listuguj community members to help develop a lobster fishing plan.



After an extensive 12-week community engagement campaign, the working team was able to complete their work on the Interim Lobster Fishing (Harvesting) Plan, and it was released to the community on April 27, 2017.

As implementation of certain aspects of the Interim Lobster Fishing (Harvesting) Plan progressed, the LMG Fisheries department and the Listuguj Chief & Council recognized the value of creating a lobster fishing law for Listuguj that would supplement the fishing plan. The working team began drafting a proposed Listuguj Lobster Law and an additional 8-week community engagement campaign began in February 2019. The main objective for this

second round of community engagement was to collect feedback and input regarding the creation, implementation, enforcement and adoption of a Listuguj Lobster Law.

With the community engagement process complete, the LMG Fisheries department is ready to release the draft Listuguj Lobster Law for community validation and formal adoption by Listuguj Chief & Council.

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## Community Engagement Details

The first round of community engagement regarding the development of a lobster fishing plan launched on February 21, 2017 and concluded on April 27, 2017.

In total, fifteen (15) community-based events were held during this community engagement campaign, including six (6) public meetings and nine (9) targeted workshop/discussion groups. Additionally, dedicated social media and radio campaigns were developed to increase awareness and encourage community participation.

The second round of community engagement regarding the creation of a lobster law began on February 7, 2019 and concluded on March 26, 2019. In this round of engagement an additional six (6) community-based events were held, including two (2) public meetings and four (4) targeted workshops/discussion groups. Again, an intense social media and radio campaign used to encourage community participation.

A final event, Listuguj Lobster Law presentation and community vote, has been scheduled for April 23, 2019 at the Listuguj Community Development Centre (Bingo Hall).

As of March 26, 2019, the combined community engagement campaigns have collected over 800 acts of participation from Listuguj community members, including but not limited to;

- 115 Engagement Surveys completed
- 101 Prioritization Surveys completed
- 244 Student Workshop participants
- 117 Community Workshop participants
- 165 Community Meeting participants
- 11 Live Stream participants

Although 800+ acts of participation were documented, an estimated 450 individual community members participated in the community engagement efforts. Many members attended multiple sessions.

The most impressive piece of validation gained through the community engagement process was that 97% of participants AGREED that Listuguj should create its own culturally relevant lobster fishing plan and exercise the right to develop, manage, enforce and govern its lobster fishery.



## Additional Information

To find copies of the Interim Lobster Fishing (Harvesting) Plan, the draft Listuguj Lobster Law and additional information regarding the community engagement campaigns visit [www.listuguj.ca/laws](http://www.listuguj.ca/laws)

For questions or concerns regarding the Listuguj lobster fishery, contact the LMG Natural Resources Directorate at 418-788-3022 or LMG Fisheries Manager, Denny Isaac at [denny.isaac@listuguj.ca](mailto:denny.isaac@listuguj.ca).