

Newfoundland and Labrador Defense League (NLDL)



Newfoundland and Labrador – Make it Yours!

To:

Mr. Loyola Hearn, Minister of Fisheries

Copy: Prime Minister Stephen Harper

Mr. Hearn,

The Newfoundland and Labrador Defense League is a non-profit advocacy group dedicated to the growth, stability and improvement of Newfoundland and Labrador. We are made up members locally, from across Canada and around the world.

One of our objectives is to enhance the provincial economy and in this light, we would like to urge your government to fully support the United Nations effort to ban bottom dragging gear.

According to a report issued by your own department recently, the use of this type of equipment has a catastrophic effect on the sea bed and in some cases the recovery of those areas can take centuries if it occurs at all. The NLDL believes that in order for fish stocks in the North Atlantic to recover it is critical that the environment in which they live and reproduce be protected.

Canada has faced criticism on occasion from various animal rights groups over its handling of issues like the seal harvest. This is an opportunity to counter act that criticism and show the entire world that indeed Canada is a nation that is dedicated to the conservation and protection of truly imperiled species.

As Newfoundland & Labrador's representative this is your opportunity to make some progress in protecting the fish habitat/species on which so many rural communities depend. Please don't waste this chance to take a stand for your Country, your province and your people.

Sincerely,

Myles Higgins

Newfoundland and Labrador Defense League

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