

COVID-19 Lobster Market Impact Assessment

For Atlantic First Nation Communities

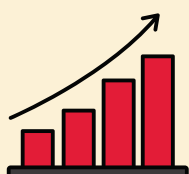


ATLANTIC POLICY CONGRESS
OF FIRST NATIONS CHIEFS SECRETARIAT



In 2020, COVID-19 began to have severe impacts on First Nation (FN) communities as the seafood industry rapidly declined with the global shutdown. FN communities rely on fisheries to provide revenue to the community. A significant decline in revenues achieved through fisheries will have a severely negative impact on the well-being of FN communities.

PRE-PANDEMIC MARKET STATUS



Lobster seafood market **exceptionally strong**, setting record highs

Driven by **high domestic & international consumer demand** & abundant supply



Annual prices have modest increase to **\$12.16/lb (CAD)** in 2019

CANADA EXPORTED \$456 MILLION OF LOBSTER TO CHINA IN 2019



Harvesters & distributors were optimistic for 2020 as early signs of the market were favorable

COVID-19 IMPACTS ON FIRST NATION FISHERIES

- 1 Low demand & high supply due to poor domestic & international market
- 2 Fishing EI for crew will decrease based on reduced revenue
- 3 10-year record low shore and market prices
- 4 Delayed fishing seasons caused by global shutdown
- 5 FN processing plants impacted from the cost of new restrictive health regulations
- 6 Overall revenue loss of \$36.5 million (CAD) for Atlantic FN communities

