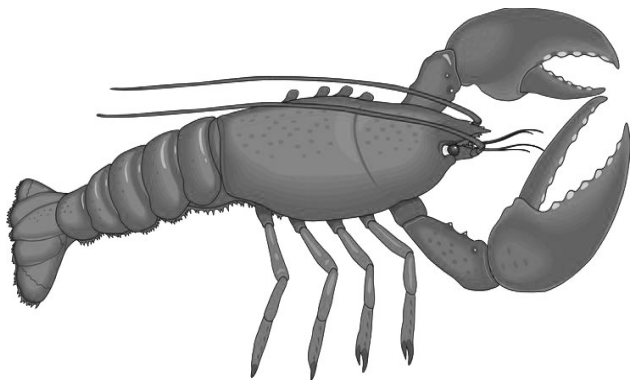


Charges Laid in Lobster Buying Investigation

Two Nova Scotia businesses have been charged following a two-year investigation into illegal lobster buying in southwestern Nova Scotia. Independent Fisheries in Lockeport and 3329874 Nova Scotia Ltd. in North West Harbour, Shelburne County, both face charges under the Fisheries and Coastal Resources Act. Conservation officers with the Department of Natural Resources laid the charges.

Independent Fisheries is charged with two offences: buying, selling or possessing fish or fish products that were illegally caught, raised or harvested, and buying fish or fish products from a person who did not have a valid commercial fishing licence.

3329874 Nova Scotia Ltd. faces those same two charges and an additional charge for processing, buying, selling, possessing or marketing fish products in Nova Scotia without the required licence or an exemption under the regulations.

Charges were filed with the court on October 2, and pleas are scheduled for November 12. The Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture created a new compliance unit that will be leading enforcement of fish buying and processing; Natural Resources will support the unit in addressing illegal fisheries activities. In 2024, the Province increased the maximum fine under the Fisheries and Coastal Resources Act to $1 million from $100,000 for a first offence and up to $2 million for a second offence

The investigation is continuing, and more charges may be laid. None of the allegations have been proven in court.

It is estimated that up to 30 per cent of annual lobster landings in Atlantic Canada are not reported. This could represent up to $400 million in taxable income that is not reported in Nova Scotia.

Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions From Landfills

The Province is partnering with St. Francis Xavier University to help Nova Scotia cut methane emissions from its largest landfills. Researchers from the Antigonish university will measure emissions at landfills across the province and identify opportunities to capture methane, a powerful greenhouse gas, before it enters the atmosphere.

They will also examine innovative methane recovery systems already in use elsewhere in Canada and globally to determine whether they can be used here in Nova Scotia.

"Our universities are centres of innovation, and we need to work with our best and brightest to find creative solutions," said Michelle Thompson, Minister of Health and Wellness and MLA for Antigonish, on behalf of Timothy Halman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change. "Our government is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, a vital part of the global effort to slow climate change."

The project's results will help municipalities determine how to reduce landfill emissions, generate renewable energy from captured methane, and support a cleaner, more sustainable future for Nova Scotia.

The university is receiving $242,060 for this project from the Province through the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund, a grant program that helps Nova Scotians adapt to climate change and/or mitigate its impacts.

Juanita Spencer, CEO, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities said, "Addressing climate change requires innovative approaches, strong partnerships and the right information to guide action. St. Francis Xavier University's methane recovery feasibility study explores opportunities to reduce emissions from Nova Scotia's landfills by building a clearer understanding of current conditions, best practices and pathways for future implementation. This project reflects the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund's role in supporting communities with the knowledge, tools and partnerships needed to develop practical climate solutions."

Nova Scotia's legislated greenhouse gas reduction targets are to be at least 53 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030 and to achieve net zero by 2050. The Department's newly released annual progress report on greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets shows the Province is on track to meet them all

The Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund was created in 2021 as part of the Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act, a legislated commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, respond to climate change including drought conditions, transform how Nova Scotians produce and use energy, make homes and buildings energy efficient, and more.

Eligible funding recipients are municipalities, non-profit and community organizations, post-secondary institutions and Mi'kmaw communities. Since launching, the fund has announced about $15.6 million for projects that help Nova Scotians respond to climate change.

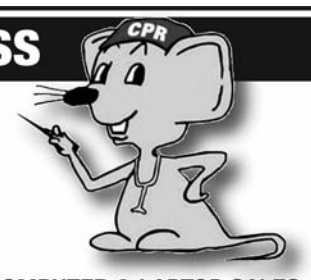


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Mallard Travel Trailer by Fleetwood, Model 25z, manufactured March 2004 serial, # 2EF1Z25294659782. Gross weight 2677 KG; Cargo carrying capacity 2152 KG; Tongue load range 214 kg. Queen size bedroom at front. Sleeps six. Furnace, water heater, propane stove and oven, refrigerator, microwave and air conditioner all in excellent working order. Major repairs include: two new axles, rims and tires – never driven; Furnace repairs and new computer mother board – Total repairs over $4,100. Selling due to health reasons. Priced to $4,750, obo. Contact Maurice, 902-890-9850, **maurice@theshorelinejourna.com**

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