



2026 US-Canada Lobster Town Meeting

Jan 21-23 Moncton, New Brunswick

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

2 - 5:00 Arrival and registration - Delta Hotel Mezzanine

5:45 Open doors for seating

6:00 Banquet Dinner - Main Venue

7:00 Tribute to Gilles Thériault

Thursday, January 22, 2026

7:30 Breakfast and registration

8:15 Welcome

8:30 Dean Diane Rowland, UMaine, College of Earth, Life, & Health Sciences, and director of the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station

8:40 Ground rule setting- Moderators, Chris Cash & Chris Brehme, UMaine Lobster Institute

9:00 Session I - Harvester Sector Updates

- Patrice McCarron, Executive Director, Maine Lobstermen's Association
- Luc LeBlanc, Fisheries Advisor, Maritime Fishermen's Union
- Dustin Delano, Chairman & Chief Strategist, New England Fishermen's Stewardship Association
- Kenneth LeClair, President, Prince Edward Island Fishermen's Association
- Virginia Olsen, Executive Director, Maine Lobstering Union Local 207
- Dan Fleck, Executive Director, Brazil Rock 33/34 Lobster Association
- Hank Soule, Deputy Director, Atlantic Offshore Lobstermen's Association
- Jeff Griffin, Member Representative Areas 2J4R3Pn, FFAW
- Michael Barron, President, Cape Breton Fish Harvesters Association

10:15 -10:30 Break (followed by Session I - Harvester Sector Updates continued)

11:30 - 12:30 Lunch

12:30 Session II - Comparing and Contrasting Fisheries Management Structures in Canada and the US

- Toni Kerns, Fisheries Policy Director, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
- Carl Wilson, Commissioner, Maine Department of Marine Resources
- Dan McKiernan, Director, Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
- Kelsey Hayden, Lobster Senior Advisor, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region
- Mathieu Vienneau, Lobster Senior Regional Fisheries Management Officer, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Gulf Region

2:30 Break

2:45 Session III - Science-Industry Collaborative Tagging Projects

- Kathleen Reardon, Lobster Fishery Biologist, Maine Department of Marine Resources
- Heather Koopman, Senior Scientist, Grand Manan Whale and Seabird Research Station/ Dean of Science and Mathematics, Kennesaw State University
- Meghan Fraser, Biologist, Homarus Inc., Maritime Fishermen's Union
- Dan Fleck, Executive Director, Brazil Rock 33/34 Lobster Association
- Emily Blacklock, PhD Student, University of New Brunswick/ Science Director, Fundy North Fishermen's Association
- Adam Cook, Research Scientist, Lobster Research and Stock Assessment Lead, Fisheries and Oceans, Canada

4:45 Closing Remarks Day 1

5 - 6:30 Seafood Reception

Friday, January 23, 2025

7:30 Breakfast

8:00 Recap Day 1 - Moderators, Chris Cash & Chris Brehme, UMaine Lobster Institute

8:15 Hon. Pat Finnigan, Minister of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries, Province of New Brunswick

8:30 Session IV - Trade, Tariffs, and Traceability

- Geoff Irvine, Executive Director, The Lobster Council of Canada
- Spiros Tourkakis, Executive Vice President, East Coast Seafood
- Kris Vascotto, Executive Director, Nova Scotia Seafood Alliance
- Pete Daley, CEO, Bold Coast Seafood
- Nat Richard, Executive Director, Lobster Processors Association
- Cam Dyment, Supply Chain and Distribution Manager, Cousins Maine Lobster
- Bob Creed, Executive Director, PEI Seafood Processors Association

10:00 Break

10:15 Session IV - Trade, Tariffs, and Traceability continued

11:30 Action, Wrap-up, and Depart at Noon