Disconnects & Opportunities: CDN Fisheries & Food Policy

Food Law & Policy Forum
Laval University, Québec City, Québec
Jim McIsaac, Sept 26, 2018
Outline

Disconnects & opportunities

- Importance of Ocean
- Rapid Change
- Fishery Value to Community
- Two Policies Atlantic VS Pacific
- Bill C68 changes to Fisheries Act
- Putting Fish into Food Policy
Disruptive forces
- Protectionism
- Rapid tech change
- Fractured decision making
- Increasing population
- Rapid urbanization
- Rising middle class
- Increasing resource demand
- Increasing pollutions:
  - plastics
  - CO2
  - PBDEs
  - Ocean Acid
- Weak ocean governance
Ecological, Economic, Social objectives

All best met

Good for many

Sufficient for many

Meet few

Poor across all

Global change

Do nothing

Sector focus

Manage in space or time

Add other dimension

Integrated management

Modeling Management ➔ Integrated Management
Value of fisheries to coastal community

- Tangible values from fisheries: landed value, wholesale value, retail value, and food value.
- Less tangible values, cultural ecosystem services: knowledge systems, social systems, connection to ecosystem, and aesthetic values.
- The ocean helps define the economic, social and cultural fabric of coastal communities.
Atlantic Coast Community Trends:
• Population stable slightly down
• Youth retention up
• Incomes up
• Investment up
• Infrastructure up
• Transport linkages up
• Education up
• Health & wellbeing up
• Drug and alcohol abuse down
• Social service costs stable
• **Fishery is BACKBONE of CC and integral to cultural fabric**

Pacific Coast Community Trends:
• Population down
• Youth retention down
• Income down
• Investment down
• Infrastructure down
• Transport linkages down
• Education down
• Health & wellbeing down
• Drug and alcohol abuse up
• Social service costs up
• **Fishery increasingly disconnected from CC**