

**STANDING FISH PRICE-SETTING PANEL
SQUID FISHERY 2015**

By notice dated the 19th day of February, 2015, the Panel advised that collective agreements binding on all processors in the Province that process the species Squid, must be in effect by August 19th, 2015. In the absence of such binding agreements, the Panel advised that a hearing with respect to price and conditions of sale for the species Squid would be held on Thursday, August 20th, 2015 at the Labour Relations Board Hearings Room, Beothuck Building, 20 Crosbie Place, St. John's, NL.

The Panel further advised that it has been informed by the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture that the Association of Seafood Producers of Newfoundland, hereinafter referred to as "ASP", represented processors that process the majority percentage of the species Squid. The Panel further advised that should a hearing proceed for the species Squid, the parties appearing before the Panel will be the Fish, Food and Allied Workers, hereinafter referred to as "FFAW" and ASP. No other submissions would be accepted by the Panel should any representative of this species wish to attend the hearing, concurrence from both parties to the collective bargaining process must be obtained.

The Panel convened the hearing for the species Squid at 10:00a.m., Thursday, August 20th, 2015. The only party to file a submission and appear before the Panel was the FFAW. The FFAW supported its position in an oral presentation to the Panel.

The Panel was last involved in Squid pricing in 2011. At that time, the only party appearing before the Panel was the FFAW. In 2011, and currently, ASP represented the majority of the Squid processors in the province. Pricing of Squid to harvesters has not been a contentious matter, as far as the Panel is aware, since 2011. The low level of landings has resulted in little or no export marketing as supplies have been utilized for bait. In the absence of ASP, no other party is entitled to appear before the Panel on behalf of processors.

The FFAW made an initial offer to ASP on August 18th, 2015, of .60¢/lb. ASP did not respond. The final offer of the FFAW is .55¢/lb. for round Squid. Under the circumstances it must be assumed that the bargaining agent on behalf of processors and its members do not have an issue with the level of pricing proposed.

The Panel is required to settle the issue on the basis of final offer selection. In the absence of an alternative, the Panel accepts the position of the FFAW.

The minimum price for the species Squid, effective the 20th day of August, 2015, will be .55¢/lb. for round Squid. Tubed Squid premiums above the minimum price of .55¢/lb. are to be determined between the seller and the buyer. These prices will form a collective agreement, or part of a collective agreement between processors and the FFAW, and will be binding on all processors and buyers of Squid in the province.

Dated the 20th day of August, 2015.

 _____ BILL WELLS	 _____ MAX SHORT	 _____ ED HUSSEY
--	--	--