

Bay of Fundy Workshop Report (Joshua McNeely, Peter Wells)

BoFEP has had a series of biennial Bay of Fundy Science Workshops over the years, from 1996 to 2018, bringing together scientists, students, environmental and resource managers, NGO personnel, and members of the interested public to hear about new work and meet and discuss the condition of the Bay and its living resources.

Over the past winter (2020), BoFEP teamed up with ACCESS (Atlantic Canada Coastal and Estuarine Research Society) for a joint Conference that would have held in May. Of course, the Covid 19 pandemic crisis intervened and the conference was cancelled. It would have been an outstanding event as there were submissions of almost 90 papers, posters and numerous panels on a wide range of topics and ongoing work on the Bay.

We now have a decision about future BoFEP workshops. In our judgement, we will have to wait until at least 2022 for a face to face, “normal” meeting. Due to the purpose and nature of past workshops, we are not keen about having a ZOOM meeting as a replacement for the face to face meeting. Therefore, we propose the following:

- a) Plan on a regular BoFEP Fundy Workshop for 2022.
- b) If there are volunteers to lead and assist with the organization, BoFEP could hold a few special seminars on key Fundy topics during 2021. We would need help here.
- c) We could also link again to the ACCESS group, co-sponsoring such seminars, if there is interest by all concerned.

In the meantime, be sure to submit news about ongoing research, with appropriate links to papers and reports, to the Fundy Tidings Newsletter, a key communications piece edited by Jon Percy. It is well circulated and an invaluable source of information about the Bay.