

PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED

SAVE OUR SALMON

We, the undersigned residents of Canada draw the attention of the House to the following:

THAT, WHEREAS a public survey done in 2011 found that 70% of British Columbians agree with the statement that, “wild Pacific salmon are as important to British Columbians as the French language is to Quebecers”;

WHEREAS the Fraser River sockeye run unexpectedly collapsed in 2009, with only 1 million of the expected 10 million salmon returning to spawn;

WHEREAS this collapse prompted the Government of Canada to launch a comprehensive Federal Commission of Inquiry, headed by the Honourable Bruce Cohen and released in 2012, to investigate the cause of this catastrophic decline;

WHEREAS among the 75 recommendations stemming from Justice Cohen’s inquiry were:

- The Government of Canada should remove from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans mandate the promotion of salmon farming as an industry and farmed salmon as a product,
- The Department of Fisheries and Oceans should explicitly consider proximity to migrating Fraser River sockeye when siting salmon farms, should consider relocating existing salmon farms that are too close to existing salmon runs, and should consider prohibiting net-pen salmon farming altogether, especially in the Discovery Islands;
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans should encourage British Columbia to require users of pesticides in forestry and agriculture to record, and report annually to the province, the areas where pesticides were applied and the amounts used, and
- To improve future sustainability of the Fraser River sockeye, the Government of Canada should champion, within Canada and internationally, reasonable steps to address the causes of warming waters and climate change; and

WHEREAS years later, the recommendations made by Justice Cohen in the Inquiry have yet to be implemented;

THEREFORE, YOUR PETITIONERS call upon the House of Commons to act on the precautionary principle and immediately implement all of the 75 recommendations made by Justice Cohen to save our salmon.

Signature

Full Address with City and Province

Email

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Guidelines

1. Petitions must not be altered or have any text added.
2. Petitions can be either double-sided, or have a blank back page.
3. A petition should contain signatures of residents of Canada only.
4. There is no minimum age requirement for anyone signing a petition.
5. Each petitioner must sign, not print, their name directly on the petition.
6. If a petitioner cannot sign because of illness or a disability, this must be noted on the petition and the note signed by a witness. Aside from this exception, you can only sign for yourself.
7. A petition must contain original signatures written directly on the document and not pasted, taped, photocopied or otherwise transferred to it.
8. No photocopies, scans, e-mails etc. as petitions are only admissible in hardcopy.
Please return all original signed petitions, postage free, to:

Elizabeth May, M.P.
518 Confederation Building
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Please email elizabeth.may@parl.gc.ca or call 613-996-1119 if you have any questions.