



Call for contributions to a new TBTI e-book, “Thinking Big about Small-Scale Fisheries in Canada”

This e-book calls for research and perspectives on small-scale fisheries in Canada. We seek overviews, stories, and insights about actions local fisheries and fishing communities are taking to sustain themselves while dealing with changes. The United Nations General Assembly has declared 2022: *The International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture*. Around the world, community leaders and researchers are preparing to emphasize the contributions of small-scale fisheries to seafood production, food security, and well-being. The 2022 designation draws attention to the need to sustain small-scale fisheries in a future defined by dynamic changes to fish stocks, livelihoods, and communities. Further, countries including Canada are planning their Blue Economy programs. This e-book will constitute a substantial effort to highlight for the 2022 year the challenges and opportunities for small-scale fisheries in Canada, and will contribute to enhancing small-scale fisheries’ active participation in Canada’s Blue Economy planning process that will define their futures.

Are there small-scale fisheries in Canada? What do they look like? How are they doing? How are they treated? This e-book seeks to co-create answers to these questions. An initial scan reveals the diversity of Canada’s fishing sector. For example, small-scale fisheries may include subsistence Arctic fisheries, and food fisheries across Canada’s lakes, rivers, deltas, and coastal areas. Important fisheries based in Treaty Rights may be considered as small-scale fisheries, such as Food, Social, and Ceremonial fisheries or Moderate Livelihood fisheries. Independently owned and smaller boat commercial fishing can be found on the Pacific coast, Atlantic coast, and the lakes in between. Those may also be considered small-scale fisheries. Let us work together to scope out small-scale fisheries in Canada, and see how big and important they are, so that we can elevate their profiles and expand knowledge and information about them.

Through this e-book, we begin to build an extensive information-sharing network and research programme with and for small-scale fishery leaders, researchers, and advocates. This approach has been useful for coordinating efforts to bring awareness and advance viability for small-scale fisheries and fishing communities in the Global North (e.g., Japan, Li and Namikawa 2020; United Kingdom, Korda et al. 2021; mainland Europe, Pascuel-Fernández et al. 2020).

We are seeking contributions in the form of written essays and stories (up to 4000 words) with visual images, videos, and/or audio recordings that describe challenging changes and opportunities to address and anticipate change in local governance. Topics of the essays and stories can include economic, social and cultural contributions of Canadian small-scale fisheries to communities and economies at the local, national and global level. We are also interested in historical or recent policy and institutional changes, which may have shifted and shaped small-scale fisheries in Canada. Finally,

we welcome contributions about efforts, strategies, and local governance taken by all actors to address these changes.

As part of the e-book content and structure, we aim to make small-scale fisheries in Canada more visible. Contributors may be asked to answer a 20-question template (where appropriate) to provide a basic overview of the fishery in which they are involved and in addition to their essay or story. Multiple perspectives and knowledges (e.g., Indigenous and local knowledge, empirical research, and reflections) are welcome. Contributions that engage broadly—fishing industry, communities, civil society, and academia— are encouraged. We hope you will work together, building or enriching new partnerships based on shared interests for fisheries in Canada. The e-book will be published as part of TBTI Global E-book series <http://toobigtoignore.net/tbti-contribution-to-ssf-knowledge/> and will be free and open access. The e-book will be widely disseminated through TBTI network.

Anyone interested in contributing to the e-book please **send an expression of interest** as an e-mail attachment to evana@mun.ca by **April 9, 2021**. It should include the names, affiliations and contact information for all authors, and a title and short description (100 words) of your essay or story. The description should include the name/type of the fishery, its location, and brief overview of challenges of change and local governance opportunities on which you plan to focus. After your contributions are provisionally accepted, you will be given access to a digital platform, **SSF-CAN**, to begin to engage with other contributors and to discuss work plan. Please note the tentative timeline below:

April 9, 2021	Expression of interest submission
April 30, 2021	Submission decisions and engagement on the SSF-CAN digital platform
June 15, 2021	Template to e-book editors, where applicable
August 1, 2021	Submission of draft
January 15, 2022	Complete manuscript published online
June 8, 2022	Book launch at the 2022 <i>International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture</i> celebrations on World Oceans Day

We hope you find this topic exciting, are interested in contributing to this e-book, and encouraged by opportunities to engage and learn from one another. We are looking forward to your submission. If you want to discuss an idea with us before you send us the abstract, please contact us by email: evana@mun.ca.

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This initiative is supported by the Too Big To Ignore Network (TBTI; toobigtoignore.net). TBTI includes 450 members in 80 countries. TBTI has published eight e-books and seven edited and peer-reviewed books.