

## **Clearwater and Membertou band announce historic business partnership**

Bedford, Nova Scotia, March 20

Clearwater today signed a historic agreement of understanding with the Membertou Band to explore opportunities for collaboration and mutual benefit in the fishery.

The agreement will see Clearwater and Membertou launch a joint survey under the supervision of DFO Science on offshore Jonah Crab. John Risley, president, Clearwater, said the results would help lay the groundwork for a new Jonah Crab fishery in eastern Nova Scotia.

"We view today's agreement as an important first step in building a commercial relationship with a major new participant in the fishery," noted Risley. "More importantly, I believe this agreement demonstrates that there are many opportunities for commercial interests and the First Nations to work together for mutual benefit in this industry."

Clearwater and Membertou have also agreed that the band's Snow Crab quota will now be processed at Clearwater's Highland Fisheries plant in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. Both parties will also share in revenues generated by sales, and employment opportunities will be offered to band members in Highland's new crab processing plant.

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*Based in Nova Scotia, Canada, Clearwater is one of Canada's largest vertically integrated seafood companies, specializing in lobster, scallops, coldwater shrimp, surf clams and crab. Founded in 1976 by John Risley and Colin MacDonald, the company owns eight processing plants in Atlantic Canada and Canada's largest fishing fleet.*