



# Maine Lobster Leadership Institute Winter/Spring 2017

#### Maine Lobster Leadership Institute Overview

As the Maine lobster industry copes with a rapidly changing fishery, keeping the industry relevant and profitable for the next generation is essential. Current lobster industry's leaders have served this industry for many years and are ready to pass the torch to the next generation.

New leaders must become engaged to ensure that the fishery remains strong. New leaders must continue to preserve the industry-driven conservation standards that are fundamental to the lobster fishery's success, embrace the new technologies and social structure of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and define the industry's goals and priorities moving forward.

The Maine Lobster Leadership Institute (MLLI) will foster new lobster industry leaders to identify priorities for the fishery and develop strategies to continue to engage lobstermen in securing a vibrant future for the fishery.

### **Draft Program and Schedule**

The program will kick-off with a two-day workshop retreat in late January where MLLI participants take part in a series of four workshops to gain a stronger understanding of the management, science, marketing and business aspects of the Maine lobster fishery. Over the course of the winter, MLLI participants will be introduced to state government by visiting the Maine Legislature where Maine's marine resource laws are made and are invited to attend industry meetings, the Maine Fishermen's Forum and the Boston Seafood Show. As we move into Spring, MLLI participants will have an opportunity to learn more about pressing policy issues affecting the lobster industry such as whale rules and bait supply and learn about alternative marine jobs by visiting active aquaculture farms. The program culminates with an exchange trip to Prince Edward Island in mid to late May, with a program wrap-up in June.

The MLLI curriculum covers the scope of information necessary to ground new lobsterman leaders in the issues facing the industry. It provides a firm foundation to understand the context in which Maine's lobster fishery operates and how it differs from lobster fisheries in other areas.

MLLI Draft 2017 Schedule			
January	*Two-day workshop on lobster science, management, marketing and business planning *On-site introduction to Maine Legislature and Marine Resources Committee	April	Choose at least one:  *Maine aquaculture farms  *Maine Legislature (public hearings, work sessions, House, Senate)  *Workshops on lobster issues (ie whales, bait, etc.)
February	Choose at least one:  *Attend industry meeting such as zone council, Lobster Advisory Council, or industry association board	May	*Travel to Prince Edward Island, fish with lobstermen, meet with lobster associations, tour fishermen-owned holding and processing facilities, and more!
March	Choose at least one:  *A day in the life of a lobster (workshop)  *Maine Fishermen's Forum  *Boston Seafood Show	June	Program Wrap-up *International Lobster Biology/Management conference *Maine processing plants and holding infrastructure *Wrap up meeting

## To Qualify

The MLA is recruiting up to 20 young active commercial lobstermen who are interested in becoming more involved in the lobster industry from across Maine's seven lobster zones. Preference will be given to those under age 40, but others looking to step into leadership roles will be considered.

You must commit to attend the two-day retreat in late January in the Belfast area, the exchange trip to Prince Edward Island in May, and a minimum of one meeting each month in February, March and April. The MLLI will cover the costs of meals (no alcohol), accommodations, and transportation for the two-day retreat and the exchange trip to Canada.

Interested Lobstermen must hold a valid Maine commercial lobster license with no convictions. Participants must hold or obtain a current, valid U.S. passport or U.S. passport card. Those who have been convicted of criminal offense or any alcohol related offense will likely be denied entry into Canada.

## How do I apply?

Maine Lobster Leadership Institute				
2017 Program Application				
Name	Lobster license #			
Address	Federal lobster permit?			
Phone	# of years lobstering			
Email	Lobster or marine violations?			
Date of birth	Current/valid passport?			
Why are you interested in the program?				
Tell us more about yourself, your background and your interests.				

Applications must be received by <u>December 15, 2016</u> for priority consideration. Please complete the application and mail to Maine Lobstermen's Community Alliance, PO Box 315, Kennebunk, ME 04043 or email your responses to Patrice McCarron at <u>patrice@mainelobstermen.org</u>.

Questions? call 207-967-6221 or email <a href="maintenance-patrice@mainelobstermen.org">patrice@mainelobstermen.org</a>.