

On May 17, 2017, at 12:42 PM, Minister / Ministre (DFO/MPO) <Min.XNCR@dfo-mpo.gc.ca> wrote:

=====le français suit=====

Attached is the signed response to your correspondence addressed to the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard. For your convenience, the response is reproduced in the text below.

=====

Veillez trouver ci-jointe la réponse à votre correspondance adressée à l'honorable Dominic LeBlanc, Ministre des Pêches, des Océans et de la Garde côtière canadienne. Pour votre commodité, la réponse est produite ci-dessous.

Ministerial Correspondence Control Unit
Fisheries and Oceans Canada / Government of Canada
200 Kent Street / Ottawa ON K1A 0E6
min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca / Tel: [613-992-3474](tel:613-992-3474) / Fax: [613-990-7292](tel:613-990-7292)

Unité de contrôle de la correspondance ministérielle
Pêches et Océans Canada / Gouvernement du Canada
200, rue Kent / Ottawa ON K1A 0E6
min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca / Tél : [613-992-3474](tel:613-992-3474) / Téléc : [613-990-7292](tel:613-990-7292)

Mr. Eddie Gardner
President
Wild Salmon Defenders Alliance
< singingbear@telus.net >

Dear Mr. Gardner:

Thank you for your correspondence of March 14, 2017, regarding fish farms. I also note your previous correspondence on this matter addressed to your Member of Parliament, Mr. Mark Strahl, which was forwarded to me for my consideration as Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard. I regret the delay in responding.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is committed to a robust regulatory environment for the sustainable use of all our marine resources—including wild and farmed fisheries.

In British Columbia, the aquaculture industry operates under some of the strictest regulations in the world. DFO's [Public Reporting on Aquaculture website](#) outlines DFO's regulations, management requirements, and monitoring activities, which are in place to ensure that the industry operates in a sustainable manner. Environmental management requirements include fish health management plans, fish health and compliance monitoring, and mitigation and monitoring of habitat impacts and environmental effects. The website also includes information on the Department's Fish Health Audit and Surveillance Program, which monitors the aquaculture industry in British Columbia to verify and enforce compliance with conditions of licence and all regulations.

I note your support for closed containment aquaculture. The Department has encouraged the aquaculture industry to adopt and develop technologies and best practices to enhance the environmental and economic sustainability of closed-containment aquaculture. I have attached an appendix which provides background on this important topic. Additional information on DFO's research into and support of these technologies is available on our [Closed Containment](#) website.

Regarding your comments regarding heart and skeletal muscle inflammation (HSMI) and piscine reovirus (PRV), DFO's [website](#) has detailed and up-to-date information. I strongly encourage you to read this material, which provides the scientific and historical context of this complex issue.

In previous correspondence, you have referenced the Musgamagw Dzawada'enuxw in relation to fish farms. Please note that I have responded to Chief Moon.

Thank you for writing. I appreciate the opportunity to respond to your concerns, and hope that the information I have provided is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Original signed by

Dominic LeBlanc, P.C., Q.C., M.P.
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard

Attachment

c.c.: The Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould, P.C., Q.C., M.P.
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
The Honourable Thomas J. Mulcair, P.C., M.P.
Leader of the New Democratic Party
Ms. Elizabeth May, M.P.
Saanich — Gulf Islands
Mr. Mark Strahl, M.P.
Chilliwack—Hope
Mr. Fin Donnelly, M.P.
Port Moody — Coquitlam
<2017-001-00615.pdf>