



CREATING WEALTH FROM KNOWLEDGE

Centre for Shellfish Research Announces New Program Manager for Training Initiative

Malaspina's Centre for Shellfish Research (CSR) is pleased to announce that Ms. Koren Bear has been selected for the position of Program Manager, *Coastal Citizens Shellfish Aquaculture Training Initiative*.

"The recruitment of a Program Manager is critical to the implementation of the new *Coastal Citizens Shellfish Aquaculture Training Initiative* and we're very pleased that Koren has agreed to accept this new position," says Don Tillapaugh, Director, CSR. "Her strong project management skills together with her experience of working directly with First Nations shellfish aquaculture programs will be a great asset to the program."

Ms. Bear has over 10 years of experience in project management, human resources, engineering and aquaculture development. She graduated in 1995 with a civil engineering degree from the University of Manitoba and has received certification in Community Economic Development from Simon Fraser University.

Koren has worked extensively with First Nation communities on both aquaculture and environmental projects. Prior to her new position, Koren served as a Project Manager for the Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council where she led shellfish aquaculture projects for the member First Nations.

"With Koren's knowledge of the social, cultural and economic uniqueness of coastal communities, she will be able to effectively manage the implementation of the training program to ensure that the courses are accessible to individuals, communities, private training providers, shellfish consultants and post-secondary institutions" says Tillapaugh.

Ms. Bear is looking forward to the challenge of the newly created position. "I am passionate about seeing First Nations move forward in the shellfish aquaculture industry and this position will be an excellent opportunity to fulfill my dream. I want to ensure that the training is readily accessible to those community members that need it."

Ms. Bear's position at the CSR is effective May 24th, 2006.

The provincial government recently awarded \$2.25 million to the CSR to fund a 5-year "*Coastal Citizens Shellfish Aquaculture Training Initiative*" to coordinate, facilitate and deliver training to First Nations communities coast-wide.

For more information, contact:

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