



APR 30 2012

Mr. Jules Blais
President
Society of Canadian Limnologists
< Jules.Blais@uottawa.ca >

Dear Mr. Blais:

Thank you for your correspondence of March 7, 2012, in which you express concern about the funding of science research in Canada.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) will continue to use the knowledge gained from its scientific research to inform decisions and policies to meet present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. DFO scientists routinely collaborate with the broader scientific community and are well respected internationally.

The Department depends on its scientific institutes, laboratories and centres of expertise for vital information to make fisheries management decisions that are both environmentally sound and economically prosperous.

I would like to assure you that freshwater science will continue to be a key priority area for DFO. Science is an essential contributor to all decision-making. The Department is moving forward to advance improvements on operations, the deployment of resources and the management of science and regulatory duties.

The continued transition to an ecosystem approach to science will put greater emphasis on scientists working in teams to address complex interrelated issues affecting fish, fish habitat and the integrity of aquatic environments.

Thank you for taking the time to share the Society of Canadian Limnologists' view on this issue.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Ashfield". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Keith Ashfield