

Fortieth Annual Meeting of NASCO

Delta Beausejour Hotel Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada

5 – 8 June 2023



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Cover photo: The Tidal Bore on the Petitcodiac River. Photo credit to the City of Moncton Contents page photo: Tagged grilse in the Miramichi River, June 2022. Photo credit to Fisheries and Ocean Canada, Gulf Region Science Branch

Introduction

The Fortieth Annual Meeting of NASCO will take place from 5 – 8 June at the <u>Delta Hotels</u> by <u>Marriott Beausejour Moncton</u> (Delta Beausejour Hotel), a venue located in downtown Moncton, and within walking distance to many parks, shops and restaurants.

While times continue to change, we will continue to create an environment that is accessible for all through hybrid participation for those who wish to participate in the meeting but are unable to travel.

Please use the registration form accompanying your invitation letter to register for the meeting (including for virtual participation), to note any accommodation requirements and for booking the evening events and post-NASCO tours.

The Provisional Agendas for the Annual Meetings of the Council and Commissions and a Draft Schedule of Meetings are available on the NASCO website.

Indigenous Peoples and Lands

The Fortieth Annual Meeting of NASCO is being held on the traditional unceded¹ territory of the Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqey and Passamaquoddy Nations. The territory is covered by the <u>Peace and Friendship Treaties</u> that set out long-standing promises and mutual obligations for the Crown and these Nations.

The City of Moncton

The City of Moncton is the largest city in the Province of New Brunswick and is part of the Greater Moncton Area which also includes the cities of Dieppe and Riverview, with a combined population of 158,000 (2021 census). The Province of New Brunswick is Canada's only officially bilingual province (French and English) and within the Greater Moncton Area you will be able to communicate in both languages. The city is situated on the Petitcodiac River estuary in the upper regions of the Bay of Fundy, which has the highest tidal ranges in the world. Small numbers of endangered wild Atlantic salmon from the Inner Bay of Fundy Salmon population are found in the Petitcodiac River and are supported by active conservation programmes.

Indigenous Peoples lived in the area for thousands of years before European contact in the 1600s. The first European settlers were French Acadians who were eventually deported during the Great Acadian Deportation in 1755. In the 1800s Moncton was known for its shipbuilding that declined with the advent of the steam engine. For much of the 20th century Moncton's growth was linked with its position as a rail junction, port, highway hub and air terminus. Today there is a diverse economy in Moncton, in transportation, retail, services and export industries.

Attractions in Moncton include Magnetic Hill, an optical illusion defying the laws of gravity, which has garnered attention for appearing to force vehicles and rainwater uphill, the largest single-building shopping centre in Atlantic Canada by floor space and entertainment in the form of various theatres and, for lovers of art, the Galerie Sans Nom. The city's landscape also features many historic buildings, including the Treitz Haus, the last surviving example of architecture from the Pennsylvania Dutch era and the oldest building in New Brunswick.

¹ Unceded means that Indigenous Peoples never ceded or legally signed away their lands to the Crown and / or to Canada.

Accommodation

The Hotel

The meeting will be held at the Delta Beausejour Hotel. Located in the heart of downtown Moncton, it is just steps from the Capitol Theatre, the tidal bore on the Petiticodiac River and the Avenir Events Centre. Many restaurants and bars are within a short walk. The hotel has two restaurants, an indoor salt-water pool, 24-hour fitness centre and spa. In addition, delegates staying at the hotel will receive a discounted 24-hour parking pass. This pass will be issued to guests upon check in at a rate of CAD \$19.55 (tax included).

Guest rooms will be offered at a special rate of CAD \$199 plus applicable local and provincial taxes (CAD \$236.85 per night including the appropriate taxes at current tax rates). This special rate applies to stays between 1-10 June 2023.

Travel

COVID-19 Advisory

There are currently no public health restrictions for entry into Canada and in the Province of New Brunswick. However circumstances may change and you are encouraged to check federal requirements before booking your travel here.

Travelling to Moncton

For entry into Canada, you may require a visa or an electronic Travel Authorisation (eTA). To determine your requirements, please consult this <u>website</u>. Additional information can be found here.

By Air

Moncton is well connected through air travel, making it easily accessible through the *Greater Moncton Roméo LeBlanc International Airport*. Direct flights are available from the cities of Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa. Airlines servicing the Moncton International Airport and more information can be found here.

Travelling from Halifax Stanfield International Airport

If, however, you choose to fly into Halifax Stanfield International Airport in Nova Scotia instead of into Moncton, your options to travel to Moncton are via rental car or <u>bus</u>. Currently there is only one bus a day between Halifax and downtown Moncton, which is a three hour trip. Car rental is recommended for the 2 hour 20 minute drive.

Bus Services To and Within Moncton

Moncton can be reached from a number of other cities in the Maritime Provinces by bus, including a daily service from Saint John (New Brunswick) Airport. Information on these services, and the bus service from Moncton Airport to downtown Moncton (all of which must be booked in advance), can be found here. Other local bus routes for the Moncton area can be found here.



Map showing location of the Delta Hotel in relation to the Greater Moncton Roméo LeBlanc International Airport. Map data ©2023 Google



Map of the area surrounding Moncton, including Halifax and the Bay of Fundy. Source: World Topographic Map

Taxi and Uber

A taxi from the airport to the hotel will take approximately 10 minutes (about 11 km) and should cost around CAD \$20 - \$30 (tipping is expected but is not mandatory; see below).

Air Cab (1-888-461-0077).

White Cab (506-857-3000).

A direct Taxi Phone is available inside the terminal building.

Taxis are not always available in large numbers, especially for late night flight arrivals, and you are encouraged to contact the taxi company in advance of your arrival. Uber is available in Moncton but taxis are recommended.

Tipping

Tipping in Canada is the normal and expected practice, although it is optional. In restaurants and bars a 15-20 % gratuity is considered standard. Some restaurants may include a gratuity in the bill depending on the venue and / or the size of the group. For other services, such as taxis, 15 % is standard.

Sales Tax

A 15 % Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) is applied to all goods sold in stores, including restaurants. The price shown on products or menus does **not** include this sales tax.

Social Functions

Three evening social functions are being planned: a reception hosted by the Province of New Brunswick on Monday, a Dinner on Tuesday and another reception hosted by the City of Moncton on Wednesday. Confirmation of these events and additional details will be provided in advance of the Annual Meeting.

Post-NASCO Salmon Tours

Petitcodiac River at Moncton - Wednesday 7 June, Evening

This walking tour will be organized in connection with the reception offered by the City of Moncton. Delegates will have an opportunity to learn about the Petitcodiac River, the famous tidal bore, wild Atlantic salmon in the river and local conservation activities on Thursday evening. Participants will take a short walk to the Petitcodiac River and follow the riverside walking trail while speaking with knowledgeable guides. Additional details will be provided ahead of the Annual Meeting.

Fundy National Park and Collaborative Salmon Recovery Program – Friday 9 June, All Day

A full day tour is being planned to visit the Fundy National Park and learn about a revolutionary partnership, the Fundy Salmon Recovery Program. This involves Indigenous Peoples, universities, government and private industry working together to raise and release hundreds of wild endangered inner Bay of Fundy Atlantic salmon (iBoF) in hopes that these adult salmon will spawn naturally in their native rivers. This project is based on the idea that Atlantic salmon have a better chance of survival when they are exposed to a wild environment at a young age and if they are born in the river rather than in a hatchery setting.

This tour will be leaving the Delta Beausejour Hotel after breakfast and returning to the hotel in the late afternoon. The drive (by coach) to and from Fundy National Park takes about 90 minutes. Lunch and refreshments will be provided during the day. Additional scenery stops may take place between Moncton and Fundy National Park.

Confirmation of, and further details (including costs to participants) on, these tours and any other events will be available ahead of the Annual Meeting.

In Conclusion

There will be a busy schedule for the Fortieth Annual Meeting in Moncton. The Council will hold three Special Sessions and one Theme-based Special Session. The first of the Special Sessions, on Monday 5 June, will focus on the external performance review. The second will be an opportunity to learn about Indigenous perspectives on Atlantic salmon. The third Special

Session will focus on the evaluation of Implementation Plans and Annual Progress Reports under the third reporting cycle (2019 - 2024). The Theme-based Special Session entitled 'Informing a Strategic Approach to Address the Impacts of Climate Change on Wild Atlantic Salmon' will be held on Tuesday, 6 June.

In addition, Council will consider two new Working Groups, to address changes to the Stocking Guidelines and invasive pink salmon. Council will also consider any recommendations from the Board in relation to its inter-sessional meeting to review its vision, scope and purpose.

In the Commissions, there will again be an opportunity for updates to be presented on any mixed-stock fisheries, including the most recent catch data and any developments in relation to the management of these fisheries to implement NASCO agreements. The West Greenland Commission will have its first opportunity to consider the implementation of the Multi-Annual Regulatory Measure for Fishing for Atlantic Salmon at West Greenland agreed in 2022. The Agendas of the North American and North-East Atlantic Commissions allow for consideration of measures to minimise risks from introductions and transfers.

This year's Annual Meeting will also prove a valuable opportunity to learn about the work being done in Canada to protect Atlantic salmon, particularly during the two tours, to the Petitcodiac River and Fundy National Park, that have been arranged by our hosts to highlight local approaches to Atlantic salmon conservation efforts.

In whichever way you participate this year, we look forward to meeting everyone and having a productive meeting. We in the Secretariat very much hope to see you all there and are ready to provide support in any way we can.

Dr Emma Hatfield Secretary Edinburgh



Upper Salmon River in the Bay of Fundy. Photo credit to R. Duval, 2022