Report urges massive cuts to N.L. fishery

Written by Administrator Friday, 25 February 2011 18:39 -

A new report calls for some of the biggest cuts to Newfoundland and Labrador's fishery since the collapse of cod stocks in 1992. The report was prepared by Tom Clift, a business professor at Memorial University. He is the independent head of a steering committee made up of industry and union leaders. It recommends the province spend \$450 million to buy out harvesting and processing licences. It says inshore fleets should be cut by up to 80 per cent, and that nearshore fleets should be reduced by up to half to help remake the fishery as a self-sustaining, international competitor. It suggests that only between one-third and two-thirds of the fishing fleets now operating are viable. More here Fisheries Minister Clyde Jackman says the province is reviewing the report but can't cover the amount recommended. In response the Liberal Fisheries critic has called for the resignation of the Minister terming the failure to act "a complete abrogation of leadership on the part of the Fisheries Minister and the government of Kathy Dunderdale."

TAGS: N.L. fishery, massive cuts urged, restructuring, licence buybacks, sustainable, fisheries, fishing, Tom Clift, Clyde Jackman

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