

Island Ad-Vantages

THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE, MONCTON, NB

By Pat Shepard, Collaborative Research Specialist, MCCF

April 7, 2022: If you follow this column, you'll notice the information above is a little foreign. I traveled to Moncton, New Brunswick last weekend to attend Fish Canada Workboat Canada - the Canadian version of our Maine Fishermen's Forum. Aside from the speed limit signs in km/h and the French accents, some of the differences in the products at the trade show were immediately obvious - and frankly a little embarrassing.

It was clear that our Canadian neighbors are a step ahead of us when it comes to improved safety at sea, environmentally friendly fishing gear, and reducing carbon emissions in their fishery. They had wooden lobster trap vendors, techy bilge oil skimmers, man-overboard recovery cradles, and survival suits that transformed into your own personal life raft. Perhaps the most impressive booth, Aspin Kemp & Associates unveiled their new plug-in hybrid fishing vessel. It had a 500hp Cummins in the bilge, nothing out of the ordinary there, but bolted to the side of the transmission was a 75kW electric motor. And popping the hatches either side of the power plant revealed a lithium ion battery bank capable of providing 72kW hours of service. A touch-screen control panel in the wheelhouse lets you toggle the clutch between four modes: Conventional (diesel), Eco (electric), Hybrid (diesel+electric), and Boost (see ya later!). The battery bank charges via shore power at the dock and trickle charges with solar panels on the roof. What's more, when the boat is on jack stands in the winter, you can plug it into the house when the power goes out as a backup generator. If you asked me, that's "Très intelligente." That's French for "wicked smart." At least I think so - I Googled it.

Do you have a question about our fisheries? Send it to info@coastalfisheries.org or call 207.367.2708. Learn more about MCCF by visiting us online at www.coastalfisheries.org.

FISHERIES LOG

Prices to Harvesters: LFA-35

Homard (lobster): SEASON CLOSED

Appât (bait): SEASON CLOSED

Diesel: \$2.09/litre.

Source: Moncton Fish Market, Ltd.

Oceanographic Buoy

Station 44490 - West Bay of Fundy

44°39'36" N 66°22'12" W

Sea Surface Temperature: 4.4°C

Source: *NOAA National Data Buoy Center*