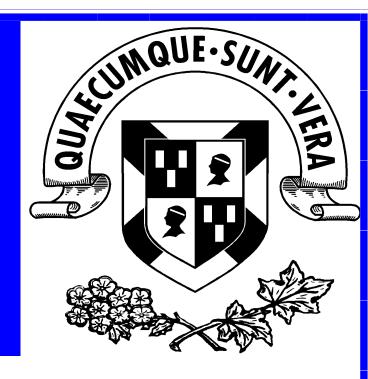
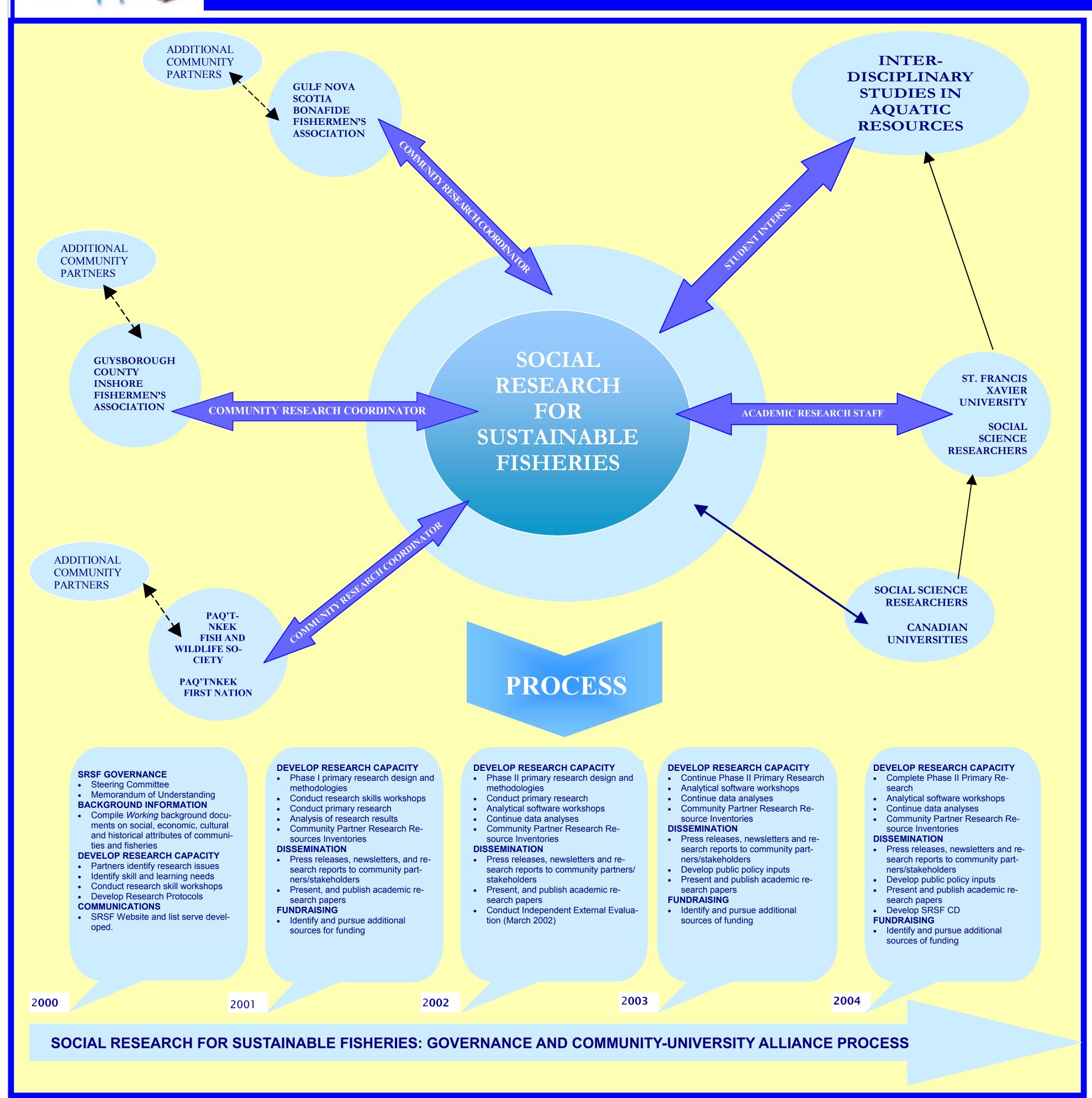


Social Research for Sustainable Fisheries (SRSF)

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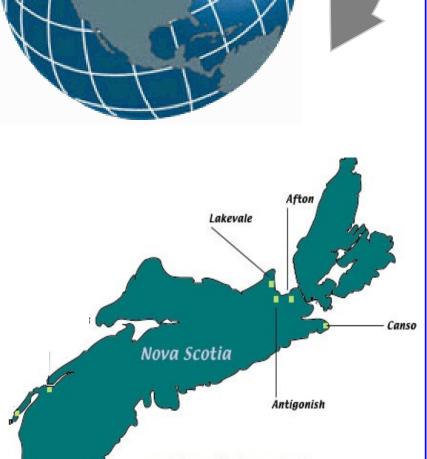


What is SRSF?

Social Research for Sustainable Fisheries (SRSF) is community-university research alliance of Mi'kmag and small boat fisheries community organisations and university researchers. The partners are:

- Gulf Nova Scotia Bonafide Fishermen's Association (GNSBFA)
- Guysborough County Inshore Fishermen's Association (GCIFA)
- Paq'tnkek Fish and Wildlife Society (PFWS), Pag'tnkek First Nation
- Interdisciplinary Studies in Aquatic Resources (ISAR), St. Francis Xavier University

Additional fisheries, community organisations and university-based researchers are linked with SRSF through relations with these core partners.



The Objectives of SRSF

- to develop fisheries-focused social research linkages between university researchers and community organizations,
- to build the social research capacity of the community organization partners,
- to initiate fisheries social research activities that examine the concerns of the partner organizations,
- to encourage an outcomes orientation in the conduct and dissemination of research.
- to foster collaboration between Mi'kmaq and small boat fish harvesters,
- to provide ISAR students with social research experience,
- to empower partner organization participation in marine resource management and policy development.



Summer student interns orientation to partner organisations and projects Gulf Nova Scotia Bonafide Fishermen's Association office, Lakevale (May 2001)

A RESEARCH RICH RESULTS PROCESS

Phase I & II

Collaborative Definition of Research Area and Issues

Collaborative Development of Preliminary Research Design and Methodology

Compile Social and Economic Background Data. Develop Research Protocols and Ethics Approval. Develop and Test Initial Survey Questionnaire.

Inform Participants Through a Mail-Out About the Planned Research

The Project Teams Complete Interviews in a Timely Fashion. Phase I&II Research is Administered by The Partner CRC and St.FX Researchers.

Develop Data File and Enter Information as the Interviews are Being Completed

Complete Analysis and Distribute Phase I & II Research Reports to Assure Prompt Feedback

Hold Community Meetings to Examine Research Results and Their Implications as well as to Obtain Advice Regarding the Development and Focus of Phase III

Develop and Present Academic Research Papers and Monographs

Phase III

Develop Interview Schedule and Consent Forms for Detailed Face-to-Face Phase III Interviews with Kev Informants Recommended in Phase II by Their Peers and Communities



Complete and Transcribe Interviews in a Timely Fashion as Phase III Proceeds



Assure All Data and Research Results are Catalogued and Securely Archived, with Partner Organization and that All Confidentiality Provisions Satisfied



Complete Analysis of Results and Prepare and Distribute Preliminary Research Results Reports to Assure Prompt Community Feedback



Hold Community Meetings to Discuss Research Results and to Explore Management and Policy Implications



Develop Research Materials and Results for Dissemination in Community Newspapers, Industry Publications and SRSF Fact Sheets



Develop and Present Academic Research Papers and Monographs

Community Partners

Each community partner has a Community Research Coordinator (CRC) supported by SRSF. Partner research issues were identified by their memberships. A top priority is the prompt communication of research results to both partner memberships and the broader community.

SRSF StFX Research Group

Project Director Anthony Davis

Senior Research Fellow Ratana Chuenpagdee

Post Doctorate Fellow John Wagner

> **Project Officer** Krista MacEachern

Guysborough County Inshore Fishermen's Association (GCIFA) Community Research Coordinator: Virginia Boudreau

The GCIFA research concerns focus on the sustainability of small boat fisheries, particularly the lobster fishery in and around the Chedabucto Bay. Documenting harvesters' local ecological knowledge, as a step towards rebuilding the fisheries in their areas is a major focus.

Background and primary research activities:

• Compiling commercial catch data for key species over the past

timetables are arrived at through a consensus decision-making process.

- Documenting changes in the fishing industry using data on gear types, boats, licenses and fish harvesters.
- Gathering environmental and ecological information pertaining to key species.
- Documenting fisheries management and policy changes.
- Documenting the social and economic contributions of the fishery to Guysborough County

SRSF Governance

As an alliance, SRSF is governed by a Steering Committee composed of community partners,

the StFX research group and three university researchers. Agendas, work-plans, and

Gulf Nova Scotia Bonafide Fishermen's Association (GNSBFA) Community Research Coordinator: Kay Wallace

The GNSBFA research concerns focus on various fisheries issues, such as groundfish predation on juvenile lobster. Documenting harvesters' local ecological knowledge, as a step towards rebuilding the fisheries in their areas is a major focus.

Background and primary research activities:

- Compiling commercial catch data for key species over the past century.
- Documenting changes in the fishing industry using data on gear types, boats, licenses and
- Gathering environmental and ecological information pertaining to key species.
- Documenting fisheries management and policy changes.
- Documenting the social and economic contributions of the fishery to Nova Scotia's Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence communities.

CRSF is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRCC) through its Community-University Research Alliance (CURA) programme. This initiative is designed to: "...help organizations within communities and university institutions combine forces and tackle issues they have identified as being of common, priority concern".

Pag'tnkek Fish and Wildlife Society (PFWS) Community Research Coordinator: Kerry Prosper

The PFWS research concerns focus on rediscovering and documenting the relationship between the Mi'kmag and the American eel (Kat [ka:tag]), an important aspect of Mi'kmaq culture. Their research activities include documenting traditional ecological knowledge and building community-level resource management and education capacity.

Background and primary research activities:

- Compiling Mi'kmaq words related to eels, resource management and governance
- Documenting Mi'kmag *Kat* legends and stories
- Documenting environmental and cultural knowledge
- Recording land use changes within local watersheds
- Compiling commercial eel fishery data
- Compiling scientific, environmental and ecological data pertaining to Kat



Fairy Bay, Kejimkujik National Park, NS Olive and Arthur Kelsall, 1946—1955 Nova Scotia Museum, Halifax NS

Petroglyphs in Nova Scotia that are thousands of vears old, illustrate the traditional Mi'kmad vorldview in which humanity exists as a armonious part of nature. The horned erpent, jipijka'mag, is spoken of in many egends as a great force in the worlds of both land and water. The serpent's actions described in the legends are similar to those of