



OUR OFFICES ARE BUILT DIFFERENT

Looking for a career that's anything but typical?

Finfish farming is one of Atlantic Canada's most exciting, dynamic sectors and it needs the next generation of problem solvers and collaborators to lead in its continued development and success.

Whether you love science, tech, the environment, being on the water or in a lab, close to home or across the globe – you can build your future in finfish farming.

WHAT IS FINFISH FARMING?

Finfish farming is the practice of raising fish like Atlantic salmon and trout from egg to harvest using skilled care, modern technology, and strong environmental standards. It's a key part of global food security - and a major employer here at home.

FINFISH FARMING IN ATLANTIC CANADA

9,420
workers direct/indirect/induced

\$3.2 BILLION
in total economic output

350 MILLION +
meals produced yearly

1,400 +
businesses supply goods and services
to the sector, generating over

\$600 MILLION +
in annual sales

DID YOU
KNOW?



Atlantic Canada grows more than 50% of Canada's Atlantic salmon



AI helps feed fish in ocean farms - all controlled from an office on land



ROVs inspect nets, mooring systems, and monitor fish behaviour underwater



Marine biologists, vets, and engineers work onsite and in office

WHY CHOOSE A CAREER IN FINFISH FARMING?

Finfish farming careers offer purpose, exciting challenges, stability and opportunity - especially in Atlantic Canada.

A Dynamic Sector with Year-Round Work

Aquaculture is one of the world's fastest-growing food sectors, creating steady jobs with benefits, training, and demand for skills in farming, science, tech, logistics, and management.

Endless Career Paths

From biology, engineering and commercial transport operations to data analysis, communications, and hatcheries on land or farms on water, there's a role for every interest - whether you want to work outdoors, in a lab, or at a computer.

Cutting-Edge Technology

Atlantic Canada leads in innovation, using underwater drones, sensors, automated feeding, and advanced genetics. If you love tech, this sector never stops evolving.

Work with Purpose

Finfish farming produces climate-friendly, healthy food that reduces pressure on wild fisheries - work that truly matters.

Strong Job Security & Growth

This sector needs new talent and has one of the youngest workforces in Canadian agriculture, offering advancement, mentorship, and leadership opportunities.

Stay Close to Home - or See the World

Build a career in rural or urban Atlantic Canada or take your skills to aquaculture regions across Canada and around the globe.



MEET SOME PEOPLE WHO WORK IN FINFISH FARMING

“ The variety keeps things interesting – one day I’m at sea, the next in a hatchery or on a vessel.”



FISH HEALTH

AMANDA BORCHARDT Fish Health Veterinarian

Monitors fish health on land and at sea, conducts biosecurity audits, advises on equipment and hatcheries, and helped develop Canada’s first aquaculture welfare standards.

TYPICAL PATH:

High School → Pre-vet science → Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (with aquatic focus)

QUINCY KING Occupational Scuba Diver

Inspects and maintains underwater equipment on ocean farms, supporting fish health and daily operations.

“ I’d choose this over an office job any day.”

TYPICAL PATH:

High School → Rec diving certificate → Physical exam → Occupational Diver Certificate



FARMS

KYARA LORD Fish Health Technician

Operates boats, monitors fish health, and applies hands-on training to support daily farm operations.

TYPICAL PATH:

High School → On-the-job training or aquaculture technician program



FISH HEALTH

“ You get to work in an amazing environment and see many sunrises and sunsets.”

“ I love that my work improves animal welfare and real-world processes.”

JULIA VOSS Data Analyst

Tests new innovations, analyzes data, and works onsite to support fish welfare and sustainability.

TYPICAL PATH:

High School → IT/tech diploma or degree → Aquaculture systems training



SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

OWEN JONES Saltwater Captain & Net Cleaner

Uses advanced drones to clean nets, maintain water flow, and support farm teams across multiple sites.

TYPICAL PATH:

High School → On-the-job training → Marine captain certification

“ I didn’t realize I’d be playing a video game as part of my career.”



FEED

DEBBIE BROWN Remote Feed Technician

Uses cameras and technology to feed fish remotely, monitor behaviour, adjust feeding schedules, and coordinate with farm crews.

TYPICAL PATH:

High School → Biology and Computer Science → On-the-job training

“ When I tell people I’m a remote feeder, they’re shocked – feeding salmon on the ocean from an office. It’s pretty amazing!”

“ I love working with so many different kinds of people.”

ADAM TURNER Director of Marine Infrastructure

Designs farm sites, models ocean conditions, and develops equipment that protects fish and ensures safe, sustainable farming.

TYPICAL PATH:

Engineering degree → Industry experience → P.Eng. certification



MANUFACTURING/ MAINTENANCE

MEET SOME PEOPLE WHO WORK IN FINFISH FARMING

“ I love being in the field - on the water and in nature.”



ALEX HART
Marine Environmental Biologist

Conducts monitoring, collects samples, analyzes data, and ensures farms meet environmental regulations while protecting ocean ecosystems.

TYPICAL PATH:

Bachelor's degree in biology or related field

ROGAN LEACH
Laboratory Manager

Supervises lab analysis, conducts field sampling, and ensures farms meet environmental and regulatory standards.



“ I started on sites feeding fish - and I fell in love with the industry.”

TYPICAL PATH:

High School → Bachelor's degree in biology or related field → On-the-job training (lab and marine skills)

GEOFF SLATER
Visual Innovator / Artist

Combines art and science to study fish behaviour through visual design, videography, fabrication, and creative problem-solving.

TYPICAL PATH:

High School → Art or design training



“ Be curious - whole new worlds will open to you.”

CAREERS IN FINFISH FARMING

FARMS

- Saltwater Marine Technician
- Harvest Vessel Deckhand
- Farm Area Manager
- Saltwater Systems Coordinator

HATCHERIES

- Hatchery Technician
- Biologist
- Freshwater Systems Coordinator
- Maintenance Technician
- Facility Manager

PROCESSING

- Distribution Manager
- Processing Maintenance Manager
- Plant Maintenance Technician
- Fish Processing Plant Worker
- Frozen Inventory Controller

SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

- Biologist
- Environmental Monitoring Professional
- Oceanographer
- Researcher
- Lab Technician

MANUFACTURING/ MAINTENANCE

- Engineer
- Net Loft Worker
- Boilermaker
- Marine Mechanic
- Welder
- Electrician

SALES AND MARKETING

- Retail Sales Manager
- Communications/Marketing Professional
- Graphic Designer
- Content Creator
- Social Media Manager

FISH HEALTH

- Veterinarian
- Biologist
- Geneticist
- Lab Technician
- Regulator

FEED

- Quality Assurance Manager
- Engineer
- Supply Manager
- Purchasing Specialist
- Production Technician

TRANSPORTATION

- Truck/Tractor Trailer Driver
- Vessel Captain
- Truck and Transport Technician
- Dispatcher
- Logistics and Freight Analyst

ADMINISTRATION

- Sustainability Manager
- Human Resource Manager
- IT Manager
- Accountant
- Data Analyst



FIND YOUR PATH IN FINFISH FARMING

There's no single way to start a career in finfish farming - and that's what makes this industry exciting. Whether you're passionate about science, technology, engineering, the environment, or hands-on work outdoors, there's a pathway that fits your strengths.

Helpful High School Courses

Biology • Chemistry • Environmental Science • Physics • Math • Computer Science • Technology • Skilled Trades • Ocean Studies

Helpful Qualities

Curious • Collaborative • Responsible • Problem-solver • Eager to learn

Post-Secondary Pathways

- Aquaculture technician programs
- Marine biology or environmental science
- Engineering
- Veterinary medicine or veterinary technician programs
- Data science, analytics, or technology programs



Atlantic Canada
Fish Farmers Association

**Ready to find your future?
Finfish farming is full of opportunities.**

Find your office at: atlanticfishfarmers.com

