

PEIFA holding annual meeting

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By Andy Walker

Fisheries and Oceans Minister Gail Shea will be the keynote speaker for the annual meeting of the P.E.I. Fishermen's Association.

Shea, who is the province's representative at the federal cabinet table, will speak during the annual banquet Friday night, March 4, starting at 6:30 p.m. The annual meeting will be held from 1:30-4:30 p.m.

The meeting will continue Saturday, March 5, with a breakfast at 7:30 a.m. and information sessions during the day. The list of speakers includes provincial Fisheries Minister Neil LeClair, Joe Zhou of Red Lobster Restaurant on the outlook for 2011 and Dr. Mike Stokesbury of Acadia University on the tuna tagging project results.

Robbie Dover of Fresh Media will give a presentation on the importance of branding and Dr. Jean Lavallee of the Lobster Science Centre at the Atlantic Veterinary College will talk about lobster research. David McGuire of the provincial Department of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Rural development on the recent seafood mission to China and Geoff Irving of the Lobster Council of Canada will talk about lobster promotion.

Robert MacMillan, a biologist with the provincial department, will offer a report on the lobster resource monitoring program and how it has operated between 1999 and 2010. The meeting will be held at the Delta Prince Edward and is open to all core fishermen in the province.