



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**60 STUDENTS RECEIVE FSRS OCEANS 11 PROGRAM AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT**

(Halifax, **June 13, 2012**) Sixty students from Oceans 11 classes throughout Nova Scotia received the tenth annual Fishermen and Scientists Research Society Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Oceans 11 Program. Sixteen of these students received their award at a ceremony held at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography on Oceans Day, June 8th. The students were presented with their awards and given a tour of the facilities by friendly and well-trained tour guides.

This annual award recognizes students, nominated by their teachers, who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in their Oceans 11 class, including level of interest, participation and contribution to the class, and scholastic achievement. The Oceans 11 Program is a science program for grade 11 students, offering them the opportunity to learn about a wide range of marine science topics including biology, oceanography, fisheries science and fisheries management.

The FSRS implemented the Oceans 11 Achievement Award to recognize the efforts of others who work towards the goals they share with the FSRS. The development of the Oceans 11 program in our schools is clearly such an effort, and the achievements of students in the program are worthy of recognition.

The FSRS congratulates the following students who received the award:

School	Student	
Amherst Regional High School	Alex	Christie
Annapolis West Education Centre	Brock	Spears
	David	Wright
Auburn Drive High School	Heather	Armstrong
Avon View High School	Samson	Tang
Barrington Municipal High School	Maria	Adams
	Donavan	Nickerson
	Ashleigh	Waybret
Breton Education Centre	Joshua Keith	Head
Cabot High School	Kenny	LeFriend
Central Kings Rural High School	Matthew	Jenkins
Charles P. Allen High School	Jessica	Portinari
Cobequid Educational Centre	Brandon	Clarke
	Nathan	Halliday
	Devan	Leadbetter
	Lynann	Murphy
	Braedon	Naugler
	Luke	Uhren
	Tyler	Shipley

	Amanda	King
Digby Regional High School	Emma	Dean
Dr. J. H. Gillis High School	Katryn	Wright
Duncan MacMillan High School	Derek	Lambert
Glace Bay High School	Morgken	Flemming
	Kaitlynn	Hogan
	Ivy	MacNeil
	Alexandra	McIntyre
	AJ	Michalik
	Bernard Joseph	Wadden
Hants North Rural High School	Robin	Hilchie
	Shantelle	Mason
Horton High School	Dorian	Blois
	Graham	Ripley
J.L. Ilsley High School	William	Hansen
	Nicholas	LeBlanc
LockeportRegional High School	Rebecca	Buchanan
Middleton Regional High School	Rachael	Banks
	Haley	Boone
	A.J.	Forsythe
Millwood High School	Erinn	Denny
	Jonathan	Owen
Musquodoboit Rural High School	Matija	McLean
North Nova Education Center	Dylan	Feltmate
Northeast Kings County High School	Stephanie	Hutt
	Abigail	Porter
Prince Andrew High School	Jordan	Duffy
	Ryan	Fleet
	Alexandra	Sotiropoulos
	Bethany	Tremblay
Pugwash District HS	Alex	Mundle
Riverview High School	Keigan	Andrews
	Ashley	Aucoin
	Cady	Cadden
	Cory	George
	Amber	Hines
	Stephen	MacNeil
South Colchester Academy	Hazen	Hutchinson
	Lucas	Langille
Spring Hill Jr./Sr. High School	Luke	Jackson
St. Mary's Academy	Natalie	Burns

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## **BACKGROUND:**

Established in January 1994, the Fishermen and Scientists Research Society (FSRS) is a non-profit organization which is an active partnership between fishermen and scientists. The FSRS was developed with the overall objectives to establish and maintain a network of fishermen and scientists capable of conducting collaborative research and collecting information relevant and necessary to the long-term sustainability of marine fisheries, and to promote effective communication between fishermen, scientists and the general public. The current membership consists of over 400 members. As the name suggests, the FSRS members are predominantly either fishermen or scientists who study the fisheries resources and the marine systems on which they depend. Other members include social scientists, educators and interested citizens. The prime requirements for becoming a member are an interest in the goals of the FSRS and a willingness to contribute towards them.

The FSRS works towards achieving the first objective in two related ways. First, members conduct science projects. These involve field collections of data, samples and specimens, and laboratory processing and analysis by FSRS technicians, interns and members. The data produced by FSRS projects have been used in stock assessments and marine mapping of fisheries resources, and published results have appeared in the primary scientific literature. The second way the FSRS seeks to improve the long-term prospects for our fisheries is through education, or more properly, co-education. Both the fishermen and scientist members have a wealth of knowledge about fisheries resources and the ocean. They certainly do not express it the same way but, more importantly it is not the same knowledge. When these two groups have put their heads together, learned each other's way of describing what they know, and pooled their knowledge, strong new insights have emerged.

As previously mentioned, one of the FSRS's primary objectives is also to facilitate and promote effective communication between fishermen, scientists, and the general public. With a view to advancing communication between these stakeholders and increasing fishermen's participation in fisheries science, the FSRS has undertaken a number of initiatives since its inception, including a quarterly newsletter, an annual conference and workshops, and a web site. Promoting communication and education also includes supporting initiatives such as the Oceans 11 Program, which is educating the future stakeholders of this industry, the future scientists and fishermen.