

Robert Irving to assist School Children release salmon in PEI

Robert Irving from Cavendish Farms will be on PEI Friday June 6th to assist school children release salmon into the Morell River. The children have raised the fish in their classrooms over the last 5 months. Cavendish Farms, in partnership with Abegweit First Nation, has supported the 'Fish Friends' program in eight PEI schools over the last several months. The program, which allows children to raise salmon in the classroom from eggs to fry, incorporates learning activities, and encourages conservation practices.

Abegweit First Nation established a Biodiversity and Enhancement Hatchery recently to support the Provincial Government's recreational fish stocking program. Cavendish Farms' has partnered with Abegweit to increase fish production, and broaden its delivery of conservation-based programs.

Chief Brian Francis of Abegweit First Nation stated, "Our community has made a strong commitment to support conservation and enhancement of the fish stocks in PEI. We are pleased to have Cavendish Farms step forward and partner with us in our efforts. The ability to directly deliver the program to the youth of PEI, is a great contribution."

Robert Irving, President of Cavendish Farms was very interested in providing assistance to this initiative, "As a major employer in Prince Edward Island, we were very supportive of the Mi'kmaq Confederacy and Abegweit First Nations's vision to involve the school system in the broader education of students at an early age and have them participate in a "hands-on' manner with the fish re-stocking component". Mr. Irving went on to say that, "the protection of our natural resources is a shared responsibility of many stakeholders, and this initiative encompasses the provincial government, conservation groups, the PEI First Nation's people, and private business, in a very unique and positive manner".

The fish will be released by about 75 students ranging from grade 1 to 5 at Mooney's Pond on the Morell River, and the activities will include a walk on the nature trail, an opportunity to fish in the pond and a BBQ.

-end of release-

For more information contact:

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