



Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of everyone involved in the organization of the 8th International Conference on Molluscan Shellfish Safety, it is my pleasure to invite you to come to Canada, to meet with your colleagues from June 12 to 17, 2011, in Charlottetown on the Prince Edward Island, the gentle island cradled on the waves of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

I can assure you that the members of the local organizing committee, the scientific committee and the international advisory committee will do their utmost to offer you the most enriching program possible, in terms of both scientific news and networking.

It is very fitting that this conference should take place in Prince Edward Island, because this province is Canada's largest molluscan shellfish producer and exporter. Of historical significance, Charlottetown is officially recognized as the birthplace of Canada's Confederation. In addition, it was mussels grown in Prince Edward Island that a marine biotoxin called domoic acid was first detected in 1987.

The conference will be held at the University of Prince Edward Island, whose facilities and 50-hectare campus are perfectly suited for such events. The staff of UPEI has the experience and readiness required to guarantee the success of a conference of this nature. UPEI has rooms and suites available at a very affordable rate for anyone interested in on-site accommodations during the conference.

Continuing what is now almost a tradition, the conference program will primarily feature the following topics: epidemiology; risk assessment; pathogen and toxin monitoring; analytical methods in microbiology and biochemistry; consumer health protection; management of production and harvesting areas; post-harvest processing; and other topics that may come to the fore in the next year. This conference is intended as a discussion forum of particular interest to producers, scientists and regulators.

The conference will begin on the evening of Sunday, June 12, with the registration formalities and a welcome cocktail party. The scientific program will run from Monday, June 12, to Friday, June 17, in the form of oral presentations and poster sessions. Round table discussions of "hot" topics will also be organized.

We look forward to welcoming you for a week full of stimulating presentations and discussions on the many topics mentioned above. In addition, the social agenda will ensure that both the conference attendees and the persons accompanying them have numerous opportunities to enjoy the sights, sounds and tastes of Prince Edward Island, thus creating a memorable experience for all. For a preview, visit us at [www.tourismpei.com](http://www.tourismpei.com).

Gilbert Sauvé, ICMSS 2011 Organizer  
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Note: Conference organizers encourage you to check back to this site often for regular updates!