POSTDOCTORAL POSITION on Developing Sea cucumber Processing Methods:

Position Description
Marine bioprocessing facility of Center for Aquaculture and Seafood Development (CASD) of Marine Institute at the Memorial University of Newfoundland invites applications for one or two year postdoctoral fellowship position to develop economically viable and sustainable processing/drying techniques to maximize the yield and market value of sea cucumber products. This position is partially funded by our Industry partner based at St. John’s, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, and candidate may have to occasionally travel within Canada and Asia. The position will be supervised by Dr. Deepika Dave, Research Scientist at Marine Institute of University of Newfoundland and Labrador. The position would be split 50% at the Marine Institute and 50% at a client processing facility along the coast.

Introduction to the Project
The topic of the postdoctoral position is to develop sea cucumber processing method for optimizing product value. The proposed project is aimed at improving the sustainability of NL Sea Cucumber fisheries by performing quality studies based on seasonality and developing processing techniques to maximize the yield, quality and value of Sea cucumber products. At the same time, the study will conduct an analysis of Asian and North American Sea cucumber fisheries to further examine the following: (a) identify concrete ways of optimizing Sea cucumber harvesting and production, (b) Identify methods to increase the quality, consistency, and competitiveness of the products, and (c) Explore novel avenues that will allow for a sustainable expansion of current NL fisheries. Following are the specific objectives of the two year of the proposed work: (a) To comprehend current Sea cucumber harvesting and production methods in order to conduct a supply chain assessment of current products, (b) To examine the relationship between post-harvest quality and seasonality based on harvest locations (c) To examine effects of different drying methods on dehydration and texture of Sea cucumber, and introduce a drying technology to improve Sea cucumber quality and yield with consideration of reduce drying time, (d) To perform quality assessment studies on dried Sea cucumber products.

Duties
The candidate will take a lead role in carrying out all research activity and analysis related to the proposed project including developing relationships at different sites to facilitate data collection; participating in various research activities and meetings; presenting research results in group meetings, seminars and scientific national and international conferences; and preparing manuscripts for publication.

Qualifications
Minimum qualifications include a Ph.D degree in biotechnology, bio resource engineering, biochemistry, or food science. An equivalent combination of experience and training may be considered. Applicants should have a strong knowledge of analytical research in the fields of fisheries, food science and technology or related fields, and be able to engage in conceptual analyses of the data. Applicants should also have expertise in qualitative data collection and analyses methods, statistical analyses and interpretation of results. The candidate will demonstrate evidence of prior research productivity, including a quality publication record, excellent collaboration and communication skills, an interest in working in an interdisciplinary research environment, and a strong work ethic and motivation to succeed within a competitive research field.

Conditions
This term position is expected to commence February 4, 2019 for one year term. The fellow will be based at the Marine Institute of Memorial University of Newfoundland and with a salary 40k including fridge benefits. The continuation of appointment is dependent upon satisfactory performance. Possession of valid class 5 driver license as issued by the province of Newfoundland and Labrador is also required.

Close Date
Pl. send your detailed CV including cover letter to Deepika.Dave@mi.mun.ca. Applications accepted until 15th December, 2018. Only candidates that are interviewed will be notified.