



Preserving our past, building our future

Press Release
For immediate distribution

**THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING COMMUNITY OF THE MAGDALEN ISLANDS
TAKES ACTION TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Grosse-Île, April 9, 2020 - CAMI (Council for Anglophone Magdalen Islanders) has received financial assistance from the Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN), through the Enhancing Regional Community Capacity (ERCC) program funded by the Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois d'expression anglaise. The funding will enable CAMI to hire two resource people who will support and facilitate the implementation of a plan to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on its community.

Although the English-speaking population represents only about 6% of the total population of the archipelago, it holds approximately a third of the lobster fishing licences (economic pillar of the Islands) available on the territory. The impact of the pandemic on the next fishing season will therefore be felt even more in this community.

The processing of seafood as well as tourism (also very affected) and public services make up most of the rest of the economic base that keeps other businesses in the community running (restaurant, service station, convenience store, boat builders...) and these will be severely impacted as well.

Gil Thériault, fellow Magdalen Islander and knowledgeable about the fishery sector, will put his qualities as a bilingual communicator to work assisting the English-speaking community during this crisis, as will Hugh Maynard, owner of Qu'anglo Communications and Consulting, an experienced facilitator who knows the small community very well.

This support team will remain in place for the time necessary for the Islands' English-speaking community to prepare and implement an appropriate response to the unique situation it currently faces.

-30-

For information:
Helena Burke | Executive Director
418 985-2116 | helena@micami.ca