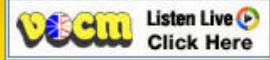




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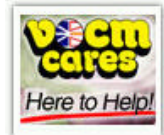
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Government Stands by Shrimp Licence Decision April 29, 2009

Government is standing by its decision, but Opposition Leader Yvonne Jones says the rejection of an independent advisory board's recommendation on the issuing of shrimp licences has her concerned government is caving to lobbyists. Jones asked Fisheries Minister Tom Hedderson to explain why he rejected an application for a shrimp licence in Valleyfield, against the advice of the Fish Processing Licensing Board. Hedderson says he stands by his decision. The move has drawn criticism from not only former Licensing Board Chair Richard Cashin, but from the area's member, Tory MHA Harry Harding. Hedderson says it's the first time he's gone against a recommendation from the board, but the decision was made in the best interest of the sector. Jones says up to now, most of the board recommendations have been rather routine. NDP Leader Lorraine Michael says with all the experience sitting on the advisory board, she's surprised at Hedderson's decision.



Yvonne Jones

