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Last updated at 12:31 PM on 25/09/08

Jones says it's time for a full-time minister of fisheries and aquaculture **LATEST NEWS**

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Opposition Leader Yvonne Jones says Premier Danny Williams should move forward with a cabinet shuffle to ensure there is a full-time minister of fisheries and aquaculture

Trevor Taylor, Minister of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development, also assumed responsibility for fisheries and aquaculture after Tom Rideout resigned from cabinet in May.

"The fishing industry has tremendous economic value to the overall performance of the province's economy," Jones said.

"Last year, the landed value of fishery product was \$1.5 billion and its importance must be recognized. Some sectors of the fishing industry continue to perform well, but there are still many challenges that lie ahead."

Jones noted that issues such as new fish processing licences, the future of the sealing industry, financial support and early retirement for fish harvesters and plant workers, and improved infrastructure are dominating discussions in the fishery industry.

"This government has never focused on the fishery and the fact that the premier has yet to put a full-time minister into that role demonstrates that lack of commitment," she said.