

### Plan trip carefully

Any reader considering Pamela Parker's invitation to visit a salmon farm (May 19 opinion piece) would be wise to plan a dive, to truly see what lies below the "tip of the iceberg." Shelburne would be an ideal place to begin. Bring along a wetsuit, a litter bag (the size of a 747) and a pooper-scooper.

Plan your trip soon, since all fish and the nets that enclose them are being removed, due to a serious outbreak of ISA (infectious salmon anemia). All gear, including your wetsuit, will be incinerated in an attempt to control the spread of disease. The fish, according to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, could end up on your dinner plate.

You will need the litter bag and pooper-scooper to collect the tons of raw sewage beneath the "farm" sites. Open-pen fish sites use an outdated model of fecal waste disposal — conveniently dumping it in the ocean.

The government-audited testing that Pamela Parker refers to has repeatedly shown high pollution levels at Shelburne Harbour sites since 2005. Unfortunately, the only requirement is more testing — no need for the hassle or cost of "clean-up."

Pollution, disease, sea-lice, dead-zones — sounds unappetizing.

Also unappetizing — the provincial NDP is considering spending \$10 million of taxpayer money to bring this industry to your harbour.

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