



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIFTH SESSION

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Bill 28

Fishermen's Merit Act

Introduction

Introduced by
Mr Jean Garon
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food



Québec Official Publisher
1985

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The object of this bill is to institute the Ordre du mérite du pêcheur and to determine the decorations and diplomas that may be awarded.

The bill provides that the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food will hold each year one or several competitions for fishermen's merit.

The bill empowers the Government to make regulations for the administration of the Act.

Bill 28

Fishermen's Merit Act

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Ordre du mérite du pêcheur is instituted for the purpose of encouraging commercial fishermen, by honours and rewards, to improve and develop fishing techniques and to improve the quality of their products as well as acknowledging services rendered to commercial fishing.

2. The Government may award the following decorations and diplomas:

(1) the decoration of Commandeur de l'Ordre du mérite du pêcheur and the diploma of "exceptional merit" or of "special merit";

(2) the decoration of Officier de l'Ordre du mérite du pêcheur and the diploma of "distinguished merit";

(3) the decoration of Chevalier de l'Ordre du mérite du pêcheur and the diploma of "great merit";

(4) the diploma of "merit".

3. Each year, the Minister shall organize one or several competitions for fishermen's merit for the whole or for part of Québec.

4. The Government may, by regulation,

(1) delimit a part of Québec where a competition may be organized;

(2) establish classes of competitors;

- (3) determine the conditions for admission to a competition;
- (4) determine the criteria on the basis of which the competitors are to be judged and the number of points to be obtained in order to win the awards, medals, diplomas, decorations or other insignia;
- (5) describe the awards, medals, diplomas, decorations or other insignia.

It may create a competition for young fishermen and award them medals or diplomas conveying no title.

5. The Minister shall select the judges for the competitions among the commanders, officers and knights of the *Ordre du mérite du pêcheur*, as well as among the experts in the professions connected with fishing and fish products.

However, in the case of the competition for young fishermen, the selection of the judges shall be at the discretion of the Minister.

6. The awards, medals, diplomas, decorations or other insignia may be awarded

(1) to those persons taking part in the competition, in order of merit and upon the report of the judges;

(2) to any person who, through his work in industry, in a public occupation or in scientific or official missions, through research work, works or publications on the aquatic environment and aquatic products, fishing techniques and equipment, or through the creation of scholarships or endowments to encourage the teaching of fishing skills, has rendered outstanding services to the fishing industry.

7. Persons who receive the gold medal or the diploma of "special merit" shall *de jure* be *Commandeurs de l'Ordre du mérite du pêcheur*; those who receive the silver medal shall be *Officiers de jure*, and those who receive the bronze medal shall be *Chevaliers de jure*.

The Minister shall be *ex officio* *Commandeur de l'Ordre du mérite du pêcheur*.

8. No person may state in his advertising that an award, a medal, a diploma, a decoration or another insignia was awarded to him under this Act without mentioning the year it was awarded to him.

[[**9.** The sums required for the administration of this Act are taken for the fiscal year 1985-86 out of the consolidated revenue fund, to such extent as the Government may determine.]]

10. The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is responsible for the administration of this Act.

11. This Act shall operate notwithstanding the provisions of sections 2 and 7 to 15 of the Constitution Act, 1982 (Schedule B of the Canada Act, chapter 11 in the 1982 volume of the Acts of the Parliament of the United Kingdom).

12. This Act comes into force on the day of its proclamation.