

# FISHBYTES

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## Welcome to the Fourth World Fisheries Congress

by Daniel Pauly and Robyn Forrest

The Fisheries Centre members welcome the participants of the Fourth World Fisheries Congress to Vancouver. We are proud to be silver sponsor to this event, the most important event in the world of fisheries research. Members of the Fisheries Centre have been associated with the first three fisheries congresses, but our participation has never been as strong as it will now be, and it is not only a matter of location.

Involvement by the Fisheries Centre began in 2001 when Bruce Ward, of the BC Fisheries Research and Development Section and now Congress Co-Chair, was asked to chair the congress by the Presi-



The Congress logo, "Mayant" ("respect") was created by artist Calvin Hunt especially for the Fourth World Fisheries Congress. To read more about it, please visit [www.worldfisheries2004.org/artwork/artwork.htm](http://www.worldfisheries2004.org/artwork/artwork.htm)

persons who would lead sessions and/or present keynotes; and considered each and every abstract submitted to the Congress before compiling the final programme (see "Quality, Relevance, Equity", p7, this issue). In addition, the Congress theme, "Reconciling Fisheries with Conservation: The Challenge of Managing Aquatic Ecosystems", was suggested by Tony and was selected by the International Steering Committee and members of the International Fisheries Section of the AFS at the annual AFS meeting in Phoenix. We take this opportunity to thank Tony and Bruce for all their efforts towards bringing the Congress together.

Fisheries Centre members registered a large number of presentations at the Congress, not least because its overall theme very well matches the focus of the Fisheries Centre: *i.e.*, "restoring fisheries, conserving aquatic life, rebuilding ecosystems and researching options". We briefly present these contributions inside this special issue of *FishBytes*, to illustrate our commitment to the Fourth World Fisheries Congress, to document the breadth of work presently undertaken at the Fisheries Centre, and in the process, to provide a guide to any Congress participant interested in attending one or several of these presentations.

Three of the conference's keynote presentations and plenary addresses will be given by Fisheries Centre members (Daniel Pauly, Carl Walters and Amanda Vincent<sup>1</sup>) and we have a number of oral and poster presentations, mainly by Fisheries Centre Faculty, their graduate students and/or other members of projects they lead.

Last but not least, we have a booth (close to that shared by two of our projects, the *Sea Around Us* project and FishBase) peopled by graduate students of the Fisheries Centre, offering information about the Fisheries Centre, its projects and their many research activities.

dent of the American Fisheries Society (AFS), after their successful bid to host the fourth congress in North America. At Bruce's invitation, Tony Pitcher, the Fisheries Centre's founding Director, then joined as the head of the Programme Committee.

The Programme Committee determined the Congress structure and sub-themes; identified the

### SPECIAL FOURTH WORLD FISHERIES CONGRESS EDITION

Welcome

Units and Unity: who we are

The selection process: Quality, Relevance, Equity

The FC at the Fourth World Fisheries Congress

Ecosystem indicators

1. Note: Dr Vincent was selected as a keynote speaker whilst still at McGill University.