

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **RPC Welcomes Hon. Ronald Ouellette, Minister of Agriculture and Aquaculture**

Fredericton, August 4, 2009 - RPC was pleased to recently host Minister Ouellette and senior officials from his department for a briefing on RPC and a facility tour. During the visit, a presentation was made describing RPC's history and providing background on provincial research organizations (PROs). PROs are provincial crown corporations mandated to facilitate the applied research needs of the provincial economy. Formed in 1962, RPC was Canada's sixth PRO legislated after Alberta, Ontario, British Columbia, Nova Scotia, and Saskatchewan.

RPC has a staff of 100 scientists, engineers and technologists that are assisting 900 clients annually.

During the tour, RPC demonstrated examples of applied research and technical services that are provided to New Brunswick's energy, manufacturing, natural resource, environment, aquaculture, mining and health care sectors. Research conducted at RPC is in response to industrial inquiries. RPC specializes in market-led innovation - innovation that originates from market need.

In addition to a wide range of diagnostic services, ongoing aquaculture research at RPC includes the development of new ISAV and SAV test assays, improved antivirus products, and probiotics research for improved larvae survival rates.

During the meeting, opportunities to cooperate to help New Brunswick sustain and grow its thriving aquaculture sector were discussed.



*Hon. Ronald Ouellette, Minister of Agriculture and Aquaculture, and Eric Cook, RPC Executive Director/CEO, meet for a briefing and facility tour of RPC.*

### **About RPC**

RPC is New Brunswick's provincial research organization (PRO), an independent contract research and development and technical services organization located in Fredericton, NB. RPC's complement of 100 scientists, engineers and technologists are supported by a 13,000 sq. meter facility housing world-class analytical chemistry and material-testing laboratories, comprehensive life science capabilities, an internationally recognized fish health lab, extensive prototype design, manufacturing and testing services, and a wide variety of pilot facilities for the development and improvement of industrial and environmental processes and products.

RPC is accredited by various organizations including the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) and is ISO 9001:2008 certified. Further information about RPC's services is available from [www.rpc.ca](http://www.rpc.ca).

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