

# Gillian Forbes

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## Profile

Experienced Marine Biologist (7+ years of work experience) with a demonstrated history of working both onshore and offshore in the oil and energy industry, as well as Federal Government (Fisheries and Oceans Canada). Skilled in marine biology, taxonomy, fisheries, environmental effects monitoring programs, offshore field work and report writing. Strong research professional in both team and individual settings, with a Bachelor of Science focused on Biology (Honours) from Dalhousie University.

## Education

September 2005 - April 2009, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS

### **Bachelor of Science Biology (Honours)**

Thesis Title: Relation of inshore shellfish toxicity to inshore and offshore densities of the toxic dinoflagellate, *Alexandrium fundyense*, in the Bay of Fundy.

Academic Achievement: Entrance Scholarship, Dunn Scholarship

## Work Experience

June 2013 – March 2017, McGregor GeoScience Ltd., Bedford, NS

### **Marine Biologist**

- Environmental Effects Monitoring reports, proposal writing, and pre-survey documents
- Offshore work:
  - Appointed as Party Chief for an Environmental Effects Monitoring Project
  - Deployed equipment such as drop camera systems, grab samplers, Niskin bottles, CTDs and SVPs
  - Collected and processed grab samples
  - Documented Health, Safety and Environment events onboard
  - Analyzed and logged sediment cores
- Supervised and trained students
- Pre-sorted benthic grab samples for infauna to NMBAQC standards
- Analysed images and videos for species ID and sediment descriptions

April 2013 – May 2013, January 2012 - March 2012, July 2012, Population Ecology Division, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dartmouth, NS

### **Aquatic Science Technician**

- Analysed fish stomach content in onshore and offshore labs
  - Used taxonomic ID keys to identify, sort, and dissect groundfish invertebrates
  - Extracted otoliths and stomachs and determined length, weight and sex
  - Entered data in a Microsoft Access Database

January 2013 – March 2013, Ocean and Ecosystem Research Division, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dartmouth, NS

**Aquatic Science Technician**

- Analysed phytoplankton and bacteria
  - Used a flow cytometer, micropipettes, and made stock solutions

November 2011 - January 2012, McGregor GeoScience Ltd, Bedford, NS

**Environmental Science Lab Technician**

- Processed benthic samples
  - Pre-sorted benthic samples, extracted organisms, and separated into broad taxonomic groups

January 2010 – May 2011, July -November 2011, Population Ecology Division, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dartmouth, NS

**Aquatic Science Technician**

- Analysed images and videos
  - Identified benthic species and substrate types in seafloor images
  - Created image and video metadata
  - Logged data in a database and wrote data summaries

June 2009- December 2009, Population Ecology Division – Inshore Scallop Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dartmouth, NS

**YMCA Fisheries Intern**

- Proofread scallop fisheries data, and correcting and flagging errors
- Mapped data to find spatial errors
- Created metadata and wrote data summary reports
- Analysed images to identify benthic species

May-August (2007-2008), December 2008, Ocean Sciences Section – Red Tide Oceanography

St. Andrews Biological Station, St. Andrews, NB

**Phytoplankton and Invasive Species Technician -Student**

- Proofread and entered phytoplankton data into databases
- Conducted field work on boats, beaches and wharves, involving collecting water samples, plankton tows, CTD casts, and quadrat and transect sampling for green crab
- Counted and identified phytoplankton species, using settling chambers and inverted and compound light microscopes
- Assembled, deployed, and retrieved tunicate collectors, and identified invasive tunicates

**Training and Qualifications**

2016: Sea Farers Medical

2016: Transportation of Dangerous Goods by Ground

2015: WHMIS Certification

2014: Marine Basic First Aid

2014: CABIN freshwater training – Field Technician and Project Manager Certifications

2013: Marine Emergency Duties Certification (MEDA1)

2011: VHF Radio License

2010: Pleasure Craft Operator's Card

2003: Valid Class 5 Driver's License (Clean Driving Record)