

Directions Read the statements. On the line following each statement, write the title of the person who might express such an opinion.

Canadian police officer

Canadian Supreme Court judge

European Canadian fisher

Native Canadian fisher

- 1 “My people have been fishing in the waters of the North Atlantic for generations. Long before the Europeans arrived, the cod and other seafood gave life to my people. My people cannot be held responsible for overfishing the region and should not be punished for it.”
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- 2 “We have laws in Canada and right now the law states that people can practice only limited fishing. The law applies to everyone. So until that law is changed, we will have to arrest anyone, Native Canadian or European Canadian, who is overfishing in restricted waters.”
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- 3 “The Supreme Court is giving some Canadians an unfair advantage over others. My community needs to fish and make a living just as those 34 Native Canadian nations. It is unjust that some Canadians be allowed to continue fishing while my community and many more are denied that same right. Besides, if the people of Canada are supposed to be conserving the fish supply, then letting some groups continue fishing will not solve this problem.”
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- 4 “The law of Canada above all should be fair—for all Canadians. Throughout history the government of Canada has signed treaties in good faith with the Native Canadian nations. Our recent fishing laws did not maintain the special relationship we had with the Native Canadians. Our recent fishing laws should not change the rights that Canada granted the Native Canadian nations in earlier treaties. These nations do still have the right to fish in the waters of the North Atlantic.”
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- 5 What do you think about the Canadian fishing crisis in the Atlantic Provinces? Write your opinions in a short paragraph below. You may use a separate sheet of paper.
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