

## Canada's Shark Fin Ban

*Note – Canada's federal laws to ban shark finning and shark fin importation were implemented in 2019 through Senate amendments to Government Bill C-68, changes to the Fisheries Act, based on Senate public Bill S-238, the Ban on Shark Fin Importation and Exportation Act. The final laws are contained in the below text.*

### **Fisheries Act**

#### **Shark finning**

**32 (1)** No person shall engage in the practice of shark finning.

#### **Definition of shark finning**

**(2)** In this section, shark finning means the practice of removing the fins from a shark and discarding the remainder of the shark while at sea.

#### **Importation and exportation**

**32.1 (1)** No person shall import into Canada or export from Canada, or attempt to so import or export, any shark fins or parts of shark fins that are not attached to a shark carcass except in accordance with a permit issued under subsection (2).

#### **Issuance of permit**

**(2)** The Minister may issue a permit authorizing the importation or exportation into or from Canada of any shark fins or parts of shark fins that are not attached to a shark carcass and impose any conditions that the Minister considers appropriate in the permit

**(a)** if the importation or exportation is for the purpose of scientific research relating to shark conservation; and

**(b)** if, in the Minister's opinion, the scientific research is likely to benefit the survival of any shark species or is required to enhance the chances of survival of any shark species in the wild.

#### **Amendment, suspension or cancellation**

**(3)** The Minister may amend, suspend or cancel a permit issued under subsection (2).