

# MINUTES OF ACZISC MEETING #49

## Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee

Date: Wednesday and Thursday, 27-28 September 2006

Location: Rodd Charlottetown Hotel  
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

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### **PARTICIPANTS** (<sup>1</sup>ACZISC member; <sup>2</sup>Advisory Committee member; <sup>3</sup> Director, ACZISC Association)

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Tel. No.</b>
David Boyce	Three Rivers Heritage Association	902-962-2705
Bob Branton	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Population Ecology	902-426-3537
John Burka	APICS <sup>1</sup> and Atlantic Veterinary College, University of PEI	902-566-0810
Michael Butler <sup>2</sup>	ACZISC Secretariat	902-494-1977
Gerard Costello	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Canadian Hydrographic Service (for Richard MacDougall <sup>1</sup> )	902-426-3463
Réal Daigle <sup>1</sup>	Environment Canada, Meteorological Service of Canada	506-851-6743
Richard Eisner	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region, Innovation Office	902-426-7564
Brad Fay <sup>3</sup>	Ocean Science and Technology Partnership	902-477-0946
Ray Finn <sup>1</sup>	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, NL Region, Oceans and Habitat Management	709-772-2442
Brad Firth	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Gulf Region, Oceans and Habitat	506-851-7450
Jean Gagnon	Natural Resources Canada, Geomatics Canada Canada Centre for Cadastral Management	613-995-4570
Jacques Grondin <sup>1</sup>	Natural Resources Canada, Geomatics Canada	902-661-6766
Michel Goguen <sup>1</sup>	Public Works and Government Services Canada, Geomatics and Spatial Technology	506-851-6784
Tim Hall	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region, Oceans and Habitat (for Carol Ann Rose <sup>1</sup> )	902-426-4116
Larry Hildebrand <sup>1</sup>	Environment Canada, Sustainable Communities and Ecosystems Division	902-426-2131
Tracy Horsman	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region, Oceans and Habitat	902-244-6068
Justin Huston <sup>1,2</sup>	Government of Nova Scotia, Fisheries and Aquaculture Services	902-424-2996
Claudette LeBlanc	ACZISC Secretariat	902-494-1977

## ***PARTICIPANTS (cont'd)***

John Legault <sup>1</sup>	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Gulf Region, Oceans and Habitat	506-851-6221
Geoff Lewis <sup>1</sup>	Industry Canada, Energy and Environment Industries Branch	902-426-9475
Colin MacDonald <sup>1</sup>	Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Affairs, GeoNOVA Secretariat	902-424-5281
Jane Macdonald	Health Canada, Safe Environments Program (for Sharon Chard <sup>1</sup> )	902-426-1042
Hal Mills	Observer	902-621-0224
Sam Ng'ang'a	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region, Oceans and Habitat	902-426-3376
Jackie Olsen	Environment Canada, Integrated Ecosystem Management and Strategic Integration	902-426-0628
Kyle Penney	National Defence, Formation Environment, Maritime Forces Atlantic (for Carol Lee Giffin <sup>1</sup> )	902-427-0550
Trevor Rankin	Natural Resources Canada, GeoConnections Secretariat (for Tony Turner <sup>1</sup> )	613-992-4488
Patrick Shea	Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (for Mike Warren <sup>1</sup> )	709-729-1140
Andy Sherin	Natural Resources Canada, Earth Science Sector Programs Branch	902-426-9620

### ***1. WELCOME and INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS***

Mike Butler, ACZISC Secretariat, called ACZISC Meeting #49 to order at 0830 hrs on Thursday, 28 September 2006. He welcomed members and guests. A roundtable introduction of all of the participants followed – see pages 1-2.

### ***2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA, and REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING #48***

The provisional agenda for ACZISC Meeting #49 was reviewed and approved (attached).

The draft minutes of ACZISC Meeting #48 were reviewed and approved as distributed. The minutes will be posted at <http://aczisc.dal.ca/48min.pdf>.

### ***3. STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS***

The Action Items from Meeting #48 were reviewed and will be reported under the relevant agenda item. The Action Items were either carried out or are in progress other than the following:

**Secretariat to contact the Oceans Task Group co-chairs re the possibility of making a presentation at an upcoming Task Group meeting to focus on provincial/federal collaboration and information management and a possible role for the ACZISC (carried over to Action Item 49.6).**

#### **4. UPCOMING ACZISC MEETINGS**

The upcoming ACZISC meetings are scheduled for:

**24-25 January 2007: Meeting #50, St. John's, NL**

**16-17 May 2007: Meeting #51, Fredericton, NB**

**19-20 September 2007: Meeting #52, Halifax, NS**

**23-24 January 2008: Meeting #53, Charlottetown, PEI**

Mike Butler reminded members that ACZISC Meeting #50 in St. John's would coincide with the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ACZISC.

#### **5. ACZISC ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION**

**ACZISC MEMBERSHIP:** The following changes to membership were announced:

- **New Member:** Health Canada has recently joined the ACZISC. Simon d'Entremont, RDG Atlantic, has named Sharon Chard, Regional Director, Healthy Environments and Consumer Safety, as the official representative. Mike welcomed Jane Macdonald, the Department's representative at today's meeting.
- **Retiring Members:** Ken Dominie recently retired from the NL Department of Environment and Conservation. Réal Daigle, Environment Canada and Geoff Lewis, Industry Canada, will be retiring early in 2007.

Mike thanked these members for their contributions and participation over several years. He requested that members from the relevant jurisdictions initiate discussions to identify replacements.

#### ***ACTION 49.1: Members to identify replacements for retiring / retired members***

The absence of personnel from the Government of PEI was noted. Mike reported that he, Claudette LeBlanc and Brad Fay had met yesterday with John MacQuarrie, Deputy Minister and Erin Swansburg, Climate Change Co-ordinator, PEI Department of Environment, Energy and Forestry. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the possibility of re-establishing PEI's participation in the ACZISC and to gauge its interest in hosting the Coastal Zone Canada 2010 or 2012 Conference in Charlottetown. Mr. MacQuarrie stated that he would need the support of his fellow DMs and suggested that the Secretariat make a presentation on the ACZISC and the CZCA at a meeting of the PEI DMs Committee. Justin Huston volunteered to participate in the meeting to emphasize the benefits of membership to the Provinces.

***ACTION 49.2: Secretariat to brief the PEI Deputy Ministers on the ACZISC and to gauge their interest in organizing and delivering the Coastal Zone Canada Conference in Charlottetown, either in 2010 or in 2012***

An up-to-date list of ACZISC members is attached.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Mike Butler reviewed the main ACZISC 'communication tools', including the Coastal Update e-newsletter and the website.

- The **Coastal Update** is distributed worldwide each month (~**4500 recipients on the distribution list as of September 2006**). Approximately 80% are from Canada and 60% from Atlantic Canada. The Coastal Update is also available on the **ACZISC website** at <http://aczisc.dal.ca/new.htm>. Claudette LeBlanc reported that the 'private sector/industry' component of the distribution list for the Coastal Update had been significantly increased as the result of a recent contract with IC which was specifically intended for this purpose.
- The **2005-2006 ACZISC Annual Report** was emailed to members in July and is available in PDF format at <http://aczisc.dal.ca/docs.htm>. Paper copies were distributed at the meeting. The Annual Report is considered to be an effective briefing tool for senior management and others.

Brad Fay suggested that an ACZISC pamphlet would be a good addition to the current communication tools. It would be useful for distribution at meetings, conferences, etc.

***ACTION 49.3: Secretariat to design and produce an ACZISC brochure***

**ACZISC BUDGET, FINANCIAL REPORT AND FUNDING:** The ACZISC Association financial documents were distributed and reviewed (copies attached):

- the 2006-2007 Budget/Financial Report
- the Membership Dues/Revenue Summary.

Mike Butler briefed members on the current ACZISC contracts:

- **International Ocean Institute - Canada:** This contract (\$50K per year + expenses) is for Mike Butler to serve as Director of IOI-Canada, based at Dalhousie University. This is a half time position. IOI is a network of 25 centres around the world; the headquarters are located in Malta.

The major activity of IOI-Canada is to organize and deliver the 8-week IOI Training Programme on Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management. Several ACZISC members and associates participate as lecturers. The 2006 Programme was held from 24 May to 21 July. Planning for the 2007 Programme is under way. Information on IOI-Canada and the Training Program is available at <http://internationaloceaninstitute.dal.ca>.

- **Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region:** This project entitled 'Overview of Current Governance in the Bay of Fundy/Gulf of Maine - Transboundary

Collaborative Arrangements and Initiatives' is a synopsis of existing governance and management mechanisms in the Bay of Fundy/Gulf of Maine area. The ACZISC Secretariat is responsible for the Geomatics/Informatics component (\$4K) and for Project Management (\$2K). The total contract amount is \$21K. The project is being done in collaboration with the Marine & Environmental Law Institute (MELI), Dalhousie University.

Mike circulated a draft copy of the report for review. He added that, with DFO's approval, the report would be made available on the ACZISC website.

Mike added the following:

- The ACZISC Secretariat has been asked to be part of a team submitting a proposal re marine surveillance and security in response to an RFP from the Canadian Space Agency.
- This is the last year for the current federal Letter of Agreement (LoA) for ACZISC funding. Mike has initiated contact with Carol Ann Rose with regard to renewing the LoA.
- It is also the last year of the three-year agreement with NL for ACZISC funding. Mike suggested that this be discussed with the provincial NL representatives in January when the Secretariat staff is in St. John's for ACZISC meeting #50.
- The re-establishment of ACZISC funding via the Council of Atlantic Premiers is key to solving the challenges associated with provincial funding. The support of the provincial Intergovernmental Affairs departments continues to be essential.

Participants discussed various options for obtaining support for the ACZISC and fostering collaboration, including presentations to and discussions with the Oceans Task Group; the Atlantic Federal Council; the Council of Ministers of Environment – Atlantic; and the Regional Committee on Oceans Management (RCOM).

***ACTION 49.4: Secretariat to continue discussions with Carol Ann Rose, DFO with regard to renewing the 3-year federal Letter of Agreement for ACZISC funding***

***ACTION 49.5: Secretariat to initiate discussions with ACZISC members representing the NL Government with regard to renewing its 3-year agreement for ACZISC funding***

***ACTION 49.6: Secretariat to contact the Oceans Task Group co-chairs re the possibility of making a presentation at an upcoming Task Group meeting to focus on provincial/federal collaboration and information management and a possible role for the ACZISC***

***ACTION 49.7: Secretariat to follow up with Jackie Olsen, EC re possible presentations on the ACZISC to the Federal Council and/or the Council of Ministers of Environment in Atlantic Canada***

***ACTION 49.8: Secretariat to follow up with Tim Hall, DFO re a possible presentation on the ACZISC to the Regional Committee on Ocean Management***

**ACZISC WORKPLAN:** The 2006-2007 ACZISC Workplan was distributed. Members reviewed and discussed the status of activities and deliverables. Mike noted the extensive list of ACZISC meeting presentation/discussion topics, appended to the Workplan.

Larry Hildebrand commented on the absence of Working Groups in the Workplan. Mike responded that the ICM and Geomatics Working Group members were involved in the COINAtlantic Task Group re the ongoing development of COINAtlantic. Larry commented that ICM Working Group meetings were useful for the exchange of ideas and information. He suggested that a meeting be organized in conjunction with ACZISC Meeting #50 in St. John's. Patrick Shea supported Larry's suggestion.

***ACTION 49.9: Secretariat to organize a meeting of the ICM Working Group in conjunction with ACZISC Meeting #50 (24-25 January in St. John's)***

**ACZISC ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** Justin Huston, Chair, stated that the Advisory Committee was established to provide advice and guidance to the Secretariat. It consists of a representative from each sector represented on the ACZISC: academia (TBA); federal departments (Carol Ann Rose); the private sector (Brent Rowley); provincial governments (Justin Huston); and the Secretariat (Mike Butler). Mike consults with Advisory Committee members on an as-needs basis.

Mike reported that the Secretariat staff plan to retire within the next 3 years. He suggested that a transition plan be considered by the Advisory Committee for discussion with the ACZISC at Meeting #50 in St. John's.

***ACTION 49.10: Secretariat to meet with the Advisory Committee to discuss a transition plan with regard to replacing the Secretariat staff upon their retirement within the next three years and make recommendations to ACZISC members at ACZISC Meeting #50***

**ACZISC ASSOCIATION:** Mike Butler reported the following:

- The ACZISC Association was registered under the NS Societies Act on 24 November 2003. It was established to act as the fiscal agent for the ACZISC Committee.
- The Directors of the Association are: Norval Collins, Brad Fay, Grant Gardner, Randy Gillespie, and Brent Rowley (chair of the Board).
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Association was held on 31 May at BIO.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Directors will be held prior to ACZISC Meeting #50.
- The Association audit for 2005-2006 is under way. The audits for 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 have been completed.

***ACTION 49.11: Secretariat to organize the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ACZISC Association Board of Directors prior to ACZISC Meeting #50 (24-25 January in St. John's)***

**6. PRESENTATIONS**

The following presentations (available online at <http://aczisc.dal.ca/docs.htm#ACZISC>) were made:

- **Introduction to the Canada Centre for Cadastral Management (3CM) and the Marine Cadastre: Underpinning Sustainable Development and Resource Management**, by Jean Gagnon, Canada Centre for Cadastral Management, Natural Resources Canada.

Jean outlined the Centre's interests in Land Management, with a particular focus on cadastral management and the offshore area. He emphasized the need for partnerships to develop a marine cadastre.

- **The Impacts of Sea Level Rise and Climate Change on the Coastal Zone of Southeastern New Brunswick**, by Réal Daigle, Manager of the Project. The PPT presentation included the associated Pointe-du-Chêne Flooding Simulation and the Reconstruction of the Storm of 5 March 1971.

The objective of the study was to quantify the potential impacts of climate change on the southeastern coast of NB, especially with regard to sea level rise, storm surges, and coastal erosion and to identify which adaptations are possible for communities to continue to prosper. Public information sessions and focus group discussions are being held to disseminate the results to communities. The final report and supporting information will be available on CD. A limited number of paper copies will also be produced.

Mike reminded participants that two workshops organized by the ACZISC in 1999 catalyzed this study.

- **Northumberland Strait Ecosystem and Overview: Progress Report**, prepared by AMEC Earth and Environmental and presented by John Legault, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Gulf Region.

John reviewed AMEC's statement of work for the project, the reporting process, including coordination and timelines, and progress to date. He also outlined workshops which will be held to address the primary issues encountered in the Strait in relation to the respective discipline fields.

**7. TOWARDS COINATLANTIC**

COINAtlantic – the Coastal and Ocean Information Network for Atlantic Canada - will facilitate information and data transactions in Atlantic Canada in support of Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management (ICOM) and the ICOM Community of Practice.

A COINAtlantic / GeoConnections meeting and a COINAtlantic session were held yesterday (Wednesday, 27 September). Participants discussed issues related to developing and building COINAtlantic and the draft proposal under preparation for submission to GeoConnections. Andy Sherin, COINAtlantic Task Group Chair, summarized yesterday's meetings:

- A number of improvements were identified for the draft COINAtlantic proposal.
- Key points of the COINAtlantic proposal will include:
  - Provision for Versions 1, 2 and 3 of the Internet Application
  - Web services for marine applications
  - NGO capacity building
  - Data consortium – web publishing, data agreements
- COINAtlantic will primarily address the GeoConnections 'Environment/Sustainable Development' issue. It will also be relevant to the other priority issues: Public Health; Public Safety/Security; and Aboriginal requirements.
- Deliverables:
  - A user validated design document
  - Internet applications:
    - Version 1 – basic
    - Version 2 – web services
    - Version 3 – prototype analytical tool
  - Marine internet web services
  - New relevant Web Mapping Services
  - Data layer agreements for existing and new WMS
- Points of discussions:
  - Additional collaborators were identified: EC, DFO, DND, operational oceanography
  - Linkages to other initiatives need to be clarified, e.g., DFO GeoPortal; Smart Bay; GOM Council; St. Lawrence Observatory; GeoNova.
  - User feedback must be integrated.
  - COINAtlantic will use existing standards.
  - A sustainability model will be developed for COINAtlantic.
- Model applications were reviewed, including: ESSIM Ocean Use Atlas; and the Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS).

Mike Butler reviewed the Action Items resulting from yesterday's COINAtlantic meetings:

***ACTION 49.12: Andy Sherin, Chair of the COINAtlantic Task Group, in collaboration with the Secretariat and GeoConnections, to revise the draft proposal by 30 October 2006***

***ACTION 49.13: Secretariat to distribute the revised COINAtlantic proposal by 10 November to members for comment***

***ACTION 49.14: Secretariat to solicit letters of support for COINAtlantic from collaborators to accompany the COINAtlantic proposal to GeoConnections***

***ACTION 49.15: Andy Sherin, in collaboration with the Secretariat and GeoConnections, to revise the draft proposal based on comments from members***

***ACTION 49.16: Secretariat to submit final COINAtlantic proposal to GeoConnections by 30 November 2006***

**8. *ROUNDTABLE REVIEW OF COASTAL ACTIVITIES and UPDATES ON ACZISC RELATED PROGRAMS***

**FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA:** Gerard Costello, Canadian Hydrographic Service - Atlantic, reported the following:

- The Real Time Tidal Water Level system is part of an early warning system for tsunamis. Online access to RTWL is currently limited to federal and provincial emergency measures organizations. Public access is being discussed; however, the potential to 'bog down' the system raises concern. Developments under way include a 24-48 hr forecast model of tides and meteorological effects, quality control and a warning system.
- The Atlantic Submarine Cable and Pipeline Viewer is now online on the BIO portal. It features interactive tools. The database includes data on each line which can be downloaded, both metadata and point data.
- A hydrographic survey is planned from 4-15 October in support of Northumberland Strait ecosystem mapping. It will include a vertical datum model; new multibeam and swath/sidescan data; and a seamless topo-bathy DEM.
- Surveys have been carried out in the Bay of Fundy; St. Margarets Bay; the Northern Labrador route; and Newfoundland: Placentia Bay; Port Harmon, Stephenville; Cape Freels; Pools Cove, Fortune Bay; Goose Bay and Terrington Narrows; and Makkovik Bank, Labrador.
- Other CHS projects include: data capture (digitizing field sheets); data processing backlog multibeam data; vertical datum models; Halifax Bridge air-gap; RTK; and CUBE processing.

Tim Hall, DFO Maritimes Region, Oceans and Habitat, reported the following:

- Personnel changes:
  - Faith Scattolon has been appointed Regional Director General for the Maritimes Region.
  - Paul Boudreau has accepted an assignment with the Science Branch. He was formerly the Regional Manager of Habitat Management.
  - Tim Hall will become the Assistant, Regional Director, Oceans and Habitat. Carol Ann, the Regional Director, will be retiring this spring.
  - Glen Herbert is now the Acting Head, Oceans Management.
  - Scott Coffen-Smout has accepted a 6-month assignment with Science.
- The Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management (ESSIM) initiative Stakeholder Council will be meeting on 30-31 October.
- Dr. Sam Ng'ang'a (NSERC post-doc visiting Research Fellow) will be developing a prototype "marine cadastre" model based on ESSIM. Input is being sought.
- The Division is in the final stages of identification of Ecologically and Biologically Sensitive Areas and Species for the Scotian Shelf. A workshop will be held later this fall or winter.
- Discussions on the future of the Oceans Action Plan are continuing at the national and regional levels. The Deputy Ministers Interdepartmental Committee on Oceans will be meeting, hopefully to be followed by a strategic-level presentation to Cabinet.

Ray Finn, DFO NL Region, Oceans and Habitat Management, reported the following:

- Progress is being made on a governance structure for the Region via the Regional Oversight Committee (ROC), the Canada - NL Committee on Oceans Management (CNLCOM) and the proposed Large Ocean Management Area (LOMA) technical committees for Placentia Bay - Grand Banks and the Gulf of St. Lawrence Integrated Management (GOSLIM) initiative on the west coast of Newfoundland.
- A steering committee of Regional Directors General has been established for GOSLIM. The DFO Québec Region is taking a leadership role.
- Management plans for the Gilberts Bay and Eastport MPAs are under development.
- Transport Canada is leading a study to assess and quantify the oil spill risk facing the south coast of Newfoundland over the next 10 years.
- A draft MoU between DFO NL and the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board (CNLOPB) has been developed. The MoU relates to 'smart regulations'.
- Geoff Perry has been appointed Acting Regional Manager, Oceans on a temporary basis to replace Tim Anderson who recently retired.

John Legault, Oceans and Habitat, DFO Gulf Region reported the following:

- Gulf of St. Lawrence Integrated Management (GOSLIM) initiative: The Ecological Overview Report is essentially completed and the Ecological Assessment of the Gulf is in its final stages of completion by the Science Branch. Concurrent with the completion of this report are the verification of the Ecological and Biological Significant Areas (EBSA) and the identification of Ecological and Biological Significant Species (EBSS). The Department will use these tools to develop Ecosystem Objectives (EO) as indicators to assist in the ultimate goal of Ecosystem-based Management of Resources. It is expected that DFO will begin developing these EOs by March 2007 though it will be some time before they are made operational at the industry and stakeholder level.
- Integrated Management Initiatives: DFO is supporting three ongoing Integrated Management Initiatives (Richibucto, NB; Trout River, PEI; and Mabou, NS) within the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence. These projects will form a basis for an initiative under the National Habitat Modernization program. Through this program, a Risk Analysis of fish passage has been initiated in the Richibucto watershed. The locations of all river crossings have been identified and a sub-sample has been investigated to assess their fish pass ability. With this data, destroyed fish habitat and high-risk fish passages can be rehabilitated or repaired. This will be broadened to the other IM initiatives and their respective watersheds.
- Data Management: Within the Risk Analysis and Management initiative mentioned above, local community groups will be asked to collect data and to assess fish passage structures. DFO is negotiating with the Collectivité Ingénieuse de la Péninsule Acadienne (CIPA) to establish a web-based service for community-level database management, mapping and data sharing. CIPA (<http://www.cipanb.ca>) was established through the 'Smart Communities' initiative of Industry Canada. DFO is also considering CIPA as the data entry service for communities involved in the Community Aquatic Monitoring Program (CAMP).

**OCEAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP**: Brad Fay reported the following:

- OSTP is a network of networks. It is an independent, federally incorporated, non-profit corporation funded by the Oceans Action Plan – Phase 1 and the National

- Research Council – see <http://www.ostp-psto.ca>. Brochures were distributed.
- OSTP was formed to promote and oversee the implementation of a sectoral strategy in the area of oceans science and technology. Brad is the ACZISC representative on the OSTP.
- OSTP welcomes membership from industry associations, cluster groups, or NGOs with a specific interest in ocean science and technology. The current members are: ACZISC; ADIANS Ocean Technology Council, Halifax; CCMC; OceansAdvance Inc., St. John's; Ocean Technology and Geomatics Working Group, Ocean Management Research Network (OMRN); Technopole maritime du Québec (TMQ), Rimouski, QC; and COIN Pacific, Victoria, BC.
- OSTP is developing an oceans science and technology strategy to be presented to the Government of Canada as a deliverable of the science and technology pillar and input to the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the Oceans Action Plan. A series of sector-based regional workshops were held to obtain input for the strategy. The final report will be available for the Ocean Innovation 2006 Conference, 25-27 October in St. John's, NL - <http://www.oceaninnovation.ca>.

**COASTAL ZONE CANADA 2006 CONFERENCE:** Brad Fay reported the following:

- The Coastal Zone Canada (CZC) conferences, held every two years, are sponsored by the Coastal Zone Canada Association (CZCA).
- CZC 2006, held on 14-18 August in Tuktoyaktuk, NT, was an excellent conference. The Conference was built around three themes: Drivers of Change; Community Well-being; and Oceans Management/Governance. International Polar Year (2007) was also a focus.
- The key output document for the Conference, the Tuktoyaktuk Declaration, is a call to action that integrates the issues raised and concerns addressed during the Conference.
- The participants were housed in a single unit; this provided an excellent environment and opportunity for networking.
- There were approximately 300 participants, of which 100 were youth. Several participants were natives.
- Brad had the honour of being invited to a Council of Elders.
- Several ACZISC members (past and present) were in attendance.

**NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA:** Trevor Rankin, GeoConnections Secretariat, reported the following:

- There are currently three GeoConnections opportunities open:

<b>ANNOUNCEMENT</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
Developing <b>Regional Atlases</b> for Decision Making	Closes October 12, 2006
Defining <b>strategic and business plans for use of the CGDI</b> and for defining user requirements for CGDI applications	Closes October 20, 2006
<b>Publishing thematic data</b> for decision-making in priority areas	Closes October 30, 2006

- Interested parties are encouraged to contact GeoConnections to determine the best fit for their particular projects. It should be noted that these opportunities are recurring and will be released again.

- The opportunity for “Developing geospatial applications for decision making” closed on 15 September. GeoConnections is currently reviewing the 82 letters received.
- For information on current and anticipated opportunities, access <http://www.geoconnections.org/CGDI.cfm/fuseaction/opportunities.welcome/gcs.cfm> or register for the monthly GeoConnections e-newsletter at <http://www.geoconnections.org/CGDI.cfm/fuseaction/subscribe.welcome/gcs.cfm>.

***ACTION 49.17: Individuals interested in discussing the GeoConnections Announcements of Opportunity to determine the best fit for their particular projects should contact Trevor Rankin, GeoConnections ([trankin@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:trankin@nrcan.gc.ca))***

Jacques Grondin, Canada Centre for Cadastral Management, reported the following:

- The name of the Legal Surveys Division of Geomatics Canada was changed to Canada Centre for Cadastral Management (CCCM) to better reflect its responsibilities and activities.
- The CCCM is responsible for the following programs:
  - Canada Lands Survey System
  - Geomatics for aboriginal property rights infrastructure
  - Geomatics for northern development
  - Geomatics for sustainable development of natural resources
  - Canada/USA international boundary maintenance and 1925 treaty implementation.
- The CCCM is the lead agency responsible for the establishment of a marine cadastre. The first challenge is to build a coalition.
- Cadastral Management can be defined as property rights, *i.e.* define who owns what and where.
- A cadastre is an inventory of who owns what, where, for how long and the associated property rights.

Jacques reported the following on behalf of Bob Taylor, Geological Survey of Canada - Atlantic:

- Under the Climate Change program, the GSCA is working with communities in the Halifax Regional Municipality to plan a Lidar survey this fall after the leaves are off the trees. The communities are looking for additional partners to expand the Lidar coverage.
- A survey is planned by Don Forbes of the shoreline monitoring site at Conception Bay in southern Newfoundland.
- The coastal monitoring program which assessed shoreline stability issues throughout Atlantic and Arctic Canada for the past 25 years has not been funded in 2006-2007.
- The C-CIARN Coastal Zone office at the GSCA has been extended until June 2007.
- Under the Geoscience for Ocean Management program there are continued marine geology surveys in Placentia Bay, NL under the Smart Bay program. A visual fly through is being developed of the sea floor using the recently collected multibeam imagery.
- A three-year marine geology program of the Bay of Fundy has started. The contact is Russell Parrott ([rparrott@nrcan-nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:rparrott@nrcan-nrcan.gc.ca)), GSCA.
- A four-year marine geology program, including multibeam bathymetry, has begun of the St Lawrence estuary from the mouth of the Saguenay River to Matane, QC. The contact is Calvin Campbell ([cacampbe@nrcan-nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:cacampbe@nrcan-nrcan.gc.ca)), GSCA.

- The CD of the seafloor surveys and impacts of sea-level rise on the Bras d'Or Lakes has been released as a GSC open file. The reference is: The Bras D'Or Lakes, Nova Scotia: Seafloor topography, backscatter strength, coastline classification, and sensitivity of coasts to sea-level rise by J. Shaw, R.B. Taylor, E. Patton, D.P. Potter, G.S. Parkes and S. Hayward; Geological Survey of Canada Open File 5397 (1 CD-ROM).
- The Environment and Health Program is continuing the work started under the Minerals in the Environment Program on risks of metal toxicity from abandoned gold mine tailings in NS. The project is extending its work to other sites in collaboration with the Province and Health Canada. It also continues to provide advice to provincial authorities conducting health risk assessments. The contact is Michael Parsons ([miparson@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca](mailto:miparson@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca)), GSCA.

**INDUSTRY CANADA:** Geoff Lewis, Energy and Environment Industries Branch, reported the following:

- IC's sector branches have been reorganized again. Effective 18 September, the Energy and Environment Branch was eliminated. The Environmental Industries Directorate was moved to the Service Industries and Consumer Products Branch (SICPB) and the Energy Industries Directorate was moved to the Resource Processing Industries Branch (RPIB). Defence and marine sectors are now combined in one directorate as part of the Aerospace, Defence and Marine Branch.
- Canadian participation in Oceans 2006 (18-21 September in Boston) included a Canadian Technology Pavilion, four provincial pavilions and several interesting events such as seminars, lunch and breakfast meetings and a reception preceding the Conference gala. The program and other details are available at <http://www.boston.gc.ca>. A report of Canadian activities is available via Geoff. Oceans 2007 will be held on 29 September - 4 October 2007 in Vancouver, BC - <http://www.oceans07mtsieevancouver.org/>.
- As a follow up to the successful 2005 Mission to NASA's Stennis Space Centre (near Biloxi, Mississippi), another Geomatics/Ocean Technologies Partnering Mission is now being organized for 15-16 March 2007. Space is limited and security clearance should be done ASAP. Anyone interested in participating should contact Geoff or Nicolas Arango, Total Trade Services.
- The consultant's report on the world market for ocean observing systems (OOS) has been completed. It will be translated and information sessions will be organized soon in various locations to present the findings.
- The Journal of Ocean Technology is a publication of the CCMC. Details are available at <http://www.journalofoceantechnology.com>.

***ACTION 49.18:*** *Individuals interested in obtaining a report of Canadian activities at the Ocean 2006 Conference should contact Geoff Lewis, IC ([lewis.geoff@ic.gc.ca](mailto:lewis.geoff@ic.gc.ca))*

***ACTION 49.19:*** *Individuals interested in participating in a "Geomatics/ GIS/Geospatial Sciences Commercial and Science & Technology Partnering Mission" to NASA's Stennis Space Centre on 15-16 March 2007 should contact Geoff Lewis or Nicolas Arango ([totaltrade@sympatico.ca](mailto:totaltrade@sympatico.ca))*

**GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR:** Patrick Shea, NL Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, reported the following:

- The Government of NL has provided direction on coastal and oceans issues. The Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (DFA) has been given the lead mandate in collaboration with several departments. The 'Resource Policy Division' is being restructured to the 'Sustainable Fisheries Resources and Oceans Policy Division'.
- Two people have been tasked with completing the provincial coastal and oceans policy framework and strategic plan. Patrick Shea has been given this assignment in DFA and Tammy Keats in the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC). Activities include the preparation of an OAP funding proposal, a Scoping Document for a Provincial Strategic Plan on Coastal and Oceans Management and an intra-provincial networking structure proposal.
- DFA and DFO NL have a good working relationship. From a provincial perspective, partnerships/activities in the two Large Ocean Management Areas (LOMAs) - Placentia Bay/Grand Banks, Gulf of St. Lawrence Integrated Management - and the coastal management areas - Placentia Bay, Coast of Bays, Bay of Islands, Northern Peninsula - are making progress.
- The Province hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Festival of the Sea on 15-23 September. The Festival provides an opportunity to exchange ideas on social and economic development issues between NL and Ireland. Coastal management was a topic of discussion.

**HEALTH CANADA:** Jane Macdonald, Safe Environments Program, reported the following:

- HC often collaborates with other federal departments, e.g., EC, in the preparation of Memoranda to Cabinet of relevance to health.
- Climate change exercises have taken place in NB and NL. The report will be provided when available.

**PUBLIC WORKS AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES CANADA:** Michel Goguen, Real Property Services, reported the following:

- The Department is still in a state of flux; however, progress is being made with the 'Way Forward', an initiative led by PWGSC to improve the delivery of services at reduced cost (<http://www.pwgsc.gc.ca/transformation/text/index-e.html>).
- Information Management/Information Technology is now a separate entity operating on full cost recovery. A catalogue of services is available.
- Targets have been achieved with regard to Acquisitions within the 'Way Forward'.
- The focus of Real Property has changed from selling buildings to determining how to repair them if not sold. Emphasis is being placed on optimizing space allocation. Directions and activities include leveraging the private sector, strategic staffing and capacity building in the short term while building capacity in the private sector.
- A multibeam system has been purchased: a Reson SeaBat 7125 with a 0.5° beam width and dual frequency.

**GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA:** Colin MacDonald, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, reported the following:

- Staffing changes: Ed Light is on secondment for one year as Manager of the Business Registry. Colin is Ed's replacement during his secondment. Rob Doiron has been appointed Executive Director, Information Management Systems (IMS). GeoNOVA reports to IMS.

Information Management Systems / GeoNOVA activities and projects:

- The metadata component of GeoNOVA is now called the NS Geographic Catalogue. An edit tool and a new search tool have been developed. Other provincial departments have been engaged to document and maintain their metadata. Municipalities are being encouraged to do so.
- A data download tool is being developed to support many different products, formats, projections, etc.
- The GeoNOVA viewer supports both WMS and WFS. The viewer is being updated by ESRI to allow users to 'build their own maps'.
- An announcement is expected with regard to an Atlas of Nova Scotia based on the CGDI. The Atlas would include maps from a variety of themes.
- An RFP is likely to be issued relating to developing a single provincial policy for data distribution and pricing.
- A working group will be drafting a single data exchange agreement for geographic information in NS.
- The GeoNOVA website – <http://geonova.ca> - is due for a facelift. New software will be added to allow users to customize content and the interface and to create 'collaboration rooms', either public or secure, for projects. Tools would include document storage and discussions.
- Colin offered to make a GeoNOVA presentation at an upcoming ACZISC meeting.

Justin Huston, Agriculture and Fisheries, reported the following:

- Nova Scotia Provincial Ocean Network (PON):
  - Staff assignments to PON have significantly increased the level of activity. Twelve provincial departments are currently engaged in the PON, including the EMO.
  - The focus currently is on strategic planning, including short-term objectives.
  - A coordinated review of the draft ESSIM Management Plan was undertaken via PON. This was used as a pilot on how to get feedback.
  - PON is reviewing the potential impacts on provincial policy of HRM's 25-year regional plan.
  - PON meetings now include roundtable reviews, similar to the ACZISC's. These are proving to be very useful.
- An interdepartmental committee is working on issues related to tidal power generation, including regulatory processes. This work should be completed by January. The group is also considering the establishment of a research site/facility.
- The Regional Committee on Oceans (RCOM) will be meeting next week. Agenda items include the approval of terms of reference and establishing a secretariat. It would be useful for the Maritimes RCOM to hold a meeting with the NL Regional Oversight Committee (ROC), in particular to discuss stakeholder engagement and aboriginal issues.
- The 7th Bay of Fundy Science Workshop will take place on 25-27 October in St. Andrews, NB - <http://www.bofep.org/workshop2006.htm>.

**NATIONAL DEFENCE**: Kyle Penney, Formation Environment, Maritime Forces Atlantic, reported the following:

- MARLANT has developed a Marine Mammal Database to record marine mammal sightings which have been reported based on standard operating procedures (SOP), in the Ship Class Environmental Management System. The log sheets and messages

- are recorded in the database and then forwarded to DFO for compilation into the main DFO Marine Mammal database.
- Marine Mammal Identification posters and a guidebook have been developed by MARLANT for use onboard HMC Ships. This will improve confidence in identifying the whale species recorded for entry into the database.
- In the future there will be an increase in littoral exercises/amphibious landings, as per the new direction of the Canadian Forces, referred to as the CF Transformation. This will increase the requirement for more detailed coastal information for the East Coast.
- MARLANT has continued to improve its Maritime Operations Area Management Planning tool, this year updating and revising its contents, format and GIS program. MARLANT has been working with the West Coast, the UK, US and Australia on decision-making tools and maritime operations in a collaborative effort to get compatibility among the programs.

**ENVIRONMENT CANADA:** Larry Hildebrand, Sustainable Communities and Ecosystems Division, reported the following:

- Two new ACAP sites were identified earlier this year: Cartwright and Happy Valley-Goose Bay, both in Labrador. EC staff will be on site this week to initiate the process.
- A Species at Risk Conference will take place on 23-24 October in Lunenburg, NS in conjunction with the annual ACAP meeting. Topics include: Habitat loss/disturbance/degradation (often due to development); defining and protecting critical habitat for SAR; education/outreach; environmental contamination; over harvesting and excessive trade; invasive species; disease; and climate change.
- The Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment (GOMC) is working on its 5-year action plan for the 2006-2011 period. Three goals are being considered: protect and restore habitat, support ecosystem and human health, and support vibrant communities. The results-based plan will feature sustainable maritime activities and a clear articulation of results.
- The Coastal Zone Canada 2008 Conference will be held on 23-29 May in Vancouver, BC. Charlottetown and a location in the Great Lakes area are being considered for either 2010 and 2012.
- Efforts are being made to maintain the Canadian Coastal Conference series organized by the Canadian Coastal Science and Engineering Association (CCSEA). Held biennially, the last conference was held in November 2005 in Dartmouth.

Jackie Olsen, Environment Canada, reported the following:

- Jackie serves both as Director, Strategic Integration and the A/Head, Integrated Ecosystem and Public Engagement Programs.
- Following the change of government at the federal level in January 2006, five priority areas were identified: accountability, lower taxes, crime, child care and health care.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of federal priorities will include environmental protection. Domestic issues include: clean air, clean water, toxics, climate change and the Kyoto Protocol, and Canada's relationship with the US and Asia.
- A complex reorganization of EC was undertaken a couple of years ago under the leadership of Samy Watson, DM at that time. Mike Horgan is the new DM.
- Jim Abraham is the new Regional Director General in Atlantic Canada, replacing Garth Bangay who retired earlier this year.
- Jackie will be taking the lead on creating a framework for ecosystem management in

Atlantic Canada. The focus will be on 'umbrella' initiatives and priority areas. Initial efforts will be on EC, followed by consultations with other departments. Existing models will be reviewed.

Tim Hall reminded participants of a workshop on Large Marine Ecozone Boundaries in Atlantic Canada organized by the ACZISC in the fall of 2003, with the aid of a Steering Committee. A background briefing document and a workshop report, including recommendations, were prepared by the ACZISC Secretariat. Tim suggested that these documents be provided to Jackie and to the ACZISC members.

***ACTION 49.20: Secretariat to provide members with a copy of the "Report of a Workshop on Large Marine Ecozone Boundaries in Atlantic Canada" held on 12 September 2003 at BIO and the briefing document***

**THREE RIVERS HERITAGE ASSOCIATION:** David Boyce reported the following:

- Regional Advisory Committee on Oil Spills: The committee was formed under the Canada Shipping Act. It will be meeting in late October in Summerside at the time of the Regional Environmental Emergencies Team (REET) meetings. The committee is making efforts to be more proactive and interactive and to address the issue of derelict vessels.
- Nearshore Marine Monitoring: A Workshop was held at BIO in February 2006. A Workshop report is now available in French and English in pdf format at <http://www.eman-rese.ca/eman/reports/publications/2006/nearshore-workshop.html>. The steering committee that organized the event is planning to implement the recommendations and keep up the momentum.
- Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Coalition on Sustainability:
  - The Coalition is negotiating with DFO to take over the implementation of the Community Aquatic Monitoring Program (CAMP).
  - The Coalition is working with CIPA from northern NB to manage data collected in Coalition projects and those collected by community groups working with the Coalition.
  - The Coalition has just completed phase two of its indicators project where six community groups were asked to help populate the data for the indicators. Phase three is being planned where three indicators will be examined in greater detail.
  - The Coalition sponsored groups from the southern Gulf to collect data on coastal erosion rates using the protocol developed by Bob Taylor, GSCA. This phase of the work will be completed this month.

**ATLANTIC VETERINARY COLLEGE, UPEI:** John Burka reported the following:

- Aquaculture Canada 2006 is scheduled for 19-22 November 2006 in Halifax, NS - <http://www.aquacultureassociation.ca/AC06/index.html>. The theme is 'Culturing Quality and Confidence'. The Conference will feature several presentations of interest to ACZISC members.
- The AVC Centre for Aquatic Health Sciences provides services to the industry. It also works collaboratively with DFO and with aquatic veterinary services in PEI, NB, NS and NL. Currently the Centre is carrying out field trials in aquaculture (fish health) in Nfld and NB. Larry Hammell is the Director of the Centre.
- DFO is working with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's (CFIA) to deliver the

National Aquatic Animal Health Program (NAAHP). The Program consists of measures to prevent, control and/or eradicate aquatic animal diseases. The NAAHP is expected to be fully in force by 2007-2008. There is considerable effort to harmonize the Program with similar initiatives in the EU, Norway and the US.

- Dr. Jeff Davidson is working collaboratively with DFO on the mitigation and control of invasive species, e.g., tunicates.
- The AVC has 3 new Canada Research Chairs: Mollusc Health (Franck Berthe); Watershed Ecological Integrity (Michael van den Heuvel); and Marine Natural Products (Russell Kerr).

**OBSERVER REPORT:** Hal Mills reported that he had returned to the Maritimes after working for several years in the NWT where he served as chair of the Beaufort Sea IM Planning Initiative. Activities included:

- developing a co-management and governance model appropriate to the Inuvialuit Settlement Region
- conducting analyses for planning and decision making relevant to hydrocarbon exploration and development
- developing a common understanding and application of the principles of IM in a co-management environment
- assessing marine protection in areas where the Beaufort Sea Beluga Management Plan is applied.

Hal stated that he was disappointed by the lack of participation by the Government of PEI in the ACZISC and would contact government personnel to encourage active participation.

## 9. ***ADJOURNMENT***

ACZISC Meeting #49 adjourned at 1615 hrs on Thursday, 28 September 2006.