

ACZISC



ATLANTIC COASTAL ZONE
INFORMATION STEERING COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF ACZISC MEETING #72

Wednesday, 7 May, 2014.

Room 1524, Queen Square, 45 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

Wednesday, 8 May, 2014.

Room 5053, Management Building, 6100 University Avenue,
Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia

UPCOMING ACZISC MEETINGS

- **17-18 September 2014:** ACZISC Meeting #73, Charlottetown, PEI
- **14-15 January 2015:** ACZISC Meeting #74, St. John's, NL
- **6-7 May 2015:** ACZISC Meeting #75, Fredericton, NB
- **16-17 September 2015:** ACZISC Meeting #76, Halifax, NS

PARTICIPANTS (¹ ACZISC member; ² Advisory Committee member; ³ Director, ACZISC Association)

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Sarah Saunders	Dalhousie University, World Wildlife Fund		
Andy Sherin	ACZISC Secretariat	a.sherin@dal.ca	902-494-6184

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Additional contact information for ACZISC Members is available on the ACZISC's [website](#).

1. **WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS**

Andy Sherin, Director, ACZISC Secretariat, called ACZISC Meeting #72 to order at 0900 hrs on Wednesday, 7 May 2014. He welcomed members and guests. A roundtable introduction of all of the participants followed.

2. **AGENDA and MINUTES**

The provisional agenda for ACZISC Meeting #72 was approved. The draft minutes of ACZISC Meeting #71 (15-16 January 2014, Fredericton, New Brunswick) were reviewed and approved. The final [minutes](#) are posted online.

3. **STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS and DATES of UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- The action items from Meeting #71 were reviewed by Andy Sherin. All of the action items have been completed or are in progress.
- **ACZISC Meeting #76** was scheduled for 16-17 September 2015 in Halifax, NS

4. **PRESENTATION and DISCUSSION**

- **Environment Canada Data Management Program Overview**, Paul Paciorek, Environment Canada.
- **Information Accessibility Policy Best Practices for Coastal Adaptation Project Results**, ACZISC Secretariat.

The meeting presentations are posted [online](#).

5. **ACZISC ADMINISTRATION**

ACZISC/State of the Scotian Shelf Survey: Meeting participants were asked to complete a survey regarding the State of the Scotian Shelf reports that are part of the ACZISC's website 'COINAtlantic' at coinatlantic.ca. The survey also asks questions regarding the ACZISC's Newsletter, the [Coastal Update](#).

ACZISC MEMBERSHIP: Russell Henry from the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries is no longer a member. Also Roland Cormier, of the Oceans and Habitat Division, Oceans and Science Branch at DFO Gulf Region has retired and is no longer a member.

ACZISC BUDGET, FINANCIAL REPORT: The ACZISC budget for April 2013 - March 2014 fiscal year was distributed and reviewed. Andy Sherin noted and thanked members who had already made contributions.

ACZISC PROGRESS REPORT: The ACZISC Progress report was presented with no questions of clarification.

ACZISC ASSOCIATION: The ACZISC Association AGM is being held today. All are welcome to be members. Mike Butler and Claudette LeBlanc are no longer executive Officers of the ACZISC Association Board of Directors. Andy Sherin has taken over the position of President and the position of Vice President is vacant.

ACTION 72.1 ACZISC Secretariat to request the Chair to call a meeting of the ACZISC Association Board of Directors.

ACTION 72.2 Members to expedite payment of their 2014-2015 contributions to the ACZISC.

6. **PRESENTATION and DISCUSSION**

- **Key Elements for Successful Rebranding**, Lois Whitehead, Science Atlantic, (formerly APICS).

The meeting presentations are posted [online](#).

7. **DISCUSSION: ACZISC/ COINATLANTIC IDENTITY**

- A short [presentation](#) was given by Andy Sherin, the ACZISC Secretariat Director on the subject of ACZISC/ COINAtlantic Identity and possible changes with the results of a recent short member survey included.
- The discussion at Meeting #72 was informed by the presentation 'Key Elements for Successful Rebranding' by Lois Whitehead from Science Atlantic which detailed some of that organization's experience with rebranding from the previous 'APICS'.
- A discussion on this subject included comments from ACZISC Meeting #72 participants that supported a change in general but there was no clear consensus or agreement on a direction; although there was a support for a change to

'COINAtlantic'. The discussions lead to the idea that further consultation is required.

- **Context:**

- In fall 2013 the ACZISC Secretariat worked with six Masters students from the Faculty of Management at Dalhousie University. The students were part of the Management Without Borders (MWB) course at Dalhousie University. They worked on a project called "Improving Outreach and Communications for the Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee". The [full report](#) is available on our website to anyone who is interested in reading it.

- The report makes many valuable recommendations on a number of topics including: the use of social media, newsletters, website design, and newsletter sponsorship. The Secretariat is considering these and implementing where we can. There is one recommendation the group made that would require more input from the ACZISC members. This recommendation is largely as a result of the MWB group's own confusion in determining who the ACZISC is, especially in connection with our desire to raise revenue by attracting sponsors for the Coastal Update Newsletter.

- "The ACZISC is strongly encouraged to consolidate its organizational branding under the COINAtlantic moniker. The ACZISC should solicit the support of its members via surveys and other consultations for this change."

- This is an area where the ACZISC Secretariat has been challenged in the past few years when explaining the nature of the organization to prospective members, new members and new representatives of existing members. This consideration is also relevant to the current [ACZISC Strategic Plan](#).

ACTION 72.3 *ACZISC Secretariat to continue to pursue a conversation regarding the ACZISC/ COINAtlantic identity through consultations with ACZISC members.*

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

Andy Sherin invited participants to provide an overview of programs and activities within their jurisdiction related to ICOM, geomatics and coastal mapping. He requested that notes be provided to the Secretariat to assist with the preparation of accurate minutes. Minutes will be posted in the [Meetings](#) section of the website.

ACTION 72.4 *Participants to email notes re their roundtable presentation to Alexi Baccardax Westcott at ACZISC@dal.ca.*

FUNDY ENERGY RESEARCH NETWORK: Lisa Isaacman, reported the following:

- FERN is a non-profit network dedicated to fostering objective environmental, engineering and socioeconomic research on tidal energy in the Bay of Fundy. It includes over 130 members from government, academia and industry across Canada and internationally.
- FERN is looking for opportunities to foster inter-institutional and interdisciplinary communication, data sharing and collaboration.
- This year FERN is planning:
 - Webinar/ speaker series;
 - Small technical workshops on focused topics such as sediment dynamics, and cabling;
 - Establishing an Atlantic-wide committee of students involved in tidal energy research
 - Student/ researcher connector events;
 - Tidal energy research conference;
 - ISSMER - International network for Social Studies of Marine Energy Conference, August 2014 at Acadia University; and
 - FORCE is creating a GIS-based data sharing tool and planning to expand to other data sources and sites.
- Collaborators on any of these projects are welcome.

CANADIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR CODATA & OCEAN TRACKING NETWORK: Bob Branton reported the following:

- Bob has recently retired after six years at the Ocean Tracking Network (OTN) at Dalhousie University. Lenore Bajona has now replaced Bob as Director of Data Management at OTN. Lenore has attended two COINAtlantic Management Committee Meetings to date and is currently at an Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS) meeting in Ostende Belgium and therefore is not able to attend today.
- As the Canadian National Committee for CODATA Chair and in emeritus role at OTN and Dalhousie Bob continues researching, advising and consulting on research data management issues including:
 - OTN: developing R visualization tools for direct access to OTNs central repository; using these R tools to encourage trackers to permit access on their biological meta data; a presentation with Lenore at upcoming Coastal Zone Canada 2014 Conference; presentation at upcoming international CODATA conference.
 - CODATA: representing Canada at upcoming international CODATA general assembly; session at CASRAI ReConnect14 (research managers).
 - OBIS Canada: experimenting with R programming tools for direct access to OBIS data repository at Flanders Marine Institute.
 - Northeast Coastal and Ocean Data Partnership: presenting poster with Tom Shyka at the Coastal Zone Canada 2014 Conference.

FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA:

Michel Goguen, Canadian Hydrographic Service, reported the following:

- CHS continues to focus on the data management function. All bathymetric data collected in 1989 and after has been loaded in the Bathy Data Base. All data has been adjusted to common horizontal and vertical datums.
- CHS just completed its fourth year of LIDAR surveys. This year concentrated in the Halifax area. CHS is presently working at updating the Charts in the Halifax area.
- CHS is also assisting the Science sector of DFO in implementing the national Science Data Management Policy and coordinating GIS work within the region.
- Collaborators that can assist us in delivering our mandate are always welcome.

Scott Coffen-Smout, Oceans and Coastal Management Division, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region, reported the following:

- Regarding the updated fisheries landings and effort mapping series, new privacy screened data layers for 2008-2012 landings (5-year composites) for 40+ species/species groups are completed. These data layers have been scrubbed of data where there are < 5 Vessel IDs, License IDs or Fisher IDs per NAFO unit area for compliance with the rule of 5 privacy policy set by Treasury Board and the ATIP Office. Each data layer has an accompanying .jpeg map to show which NAFO unit areas pass/fail the rule of 5. The equivalent effort mapping products will be available in the next few months.
- The Maritimes Regional Oceans Plan will be released in June 2014.
- OCMD continues to support mapping and information products for environmental emergency response planning, e.g., ECRC in Dartmouth.
- Analyses and profiles of ecologically and biologically significant areas (EBSAs) are being developed and will be published as DFO guidance documents.
- The MPA network planning process will engage with Provincial government departments in Spring 2014.
- OCMD expects new departmental funding for continued program work under the National Conservation Plan and the World Class initiative, the details of which are still to be finalised.
- The project on State of the Oceans Reporting with COINAtlantic may need an alternative delivery mechanism in the future because DFO Maritimes Region is inconsistent with other DFO regions on this work and it is not on the national priorities list. State of the Oceans Reporting meshes well with the direction of the Maritimes Regional Oceans Plan, however, ongoing support may require a change in project leadership in 2015.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA: Norval Collins reported the following:

- Norval will be representing the private sector at a lunchtime event on Tuesday June 17th at the Coastal Zone Canada 2014 Conference. His presentation will focus on the increasing need for input from the private sector in Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management. Information on registering for the event at: <http://www.esans.ca>.

GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR: Nicole Hynes, Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, reported the following:

- Regional Oversight Committee on Ocean Management (ROCOM) in Newfoundland is moving forward on priority issues:

- MPA network planning strategy for Newfoundland is being drafted. The proposed Laurentian Channel MPA process is moving forward.

- Aquatic invasive species activities and strategies are being developed (projects ongoing in collaboration with NGOs, communities, aquaculture, industry and academia and first nations.

- Coastal management Areas (CMA) ongoing collaboration between the Newfoundland Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and Fisheries and Oceans Canada to look at support for local involvement in oceans governance in Newfoundland.

- Fisheries and Oceans Canada Newfoundland Region is looking at internal geospatial information and platform for sharing with ROCOM members.

- World Ocean Day event planning is ongoing for June 2014. The planning committee involves NGOs, government, and industry. Events are planned across the province.

- The Coastal and Ocean program has been made permanent within the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

- Climate Change Initiatives ongoing and include tools for coastal community planning.

ACZISC SECRETARIAT:

Andy Sherin reported the following:

- COINAtlantic Webinar (Catalog Service on the Web, Semantics and Ontologies) and Workshop (Smart Atlas) are planned for the 21st and 22nd of May 2014. Email Andy if you would like to register.

- A COINAtlantic online Tools Workshop is planned for June 2014 - the day after the official end of the Coastal Zone Canada Conference. Register through the conference or email conatlantic@dal.ca.

- The ACZISC Secretariat is in the process of preparing a presentation on the legacy and future of the ACZISC for Coastal Zone Canada. Please send notes to Andy if you would like to contribute.

- CoastGIS 2015 and ICAN 7 will be held in Cape Town, South Africa in May 2015, (ICAN, 19-21 April and CoastGIS 2015, 22-24 April).
- Andy attended a MEOPAR workshop in January, an outcome is a recommendation to develop an ocean observation community of practice, and a report is to be released soon.
- The Canadian Geomatics Community Round Table National Geomatics Strategy Workshop is scheduled for 9-10 June 2014, details in the CGCRT website: <http://cgcrt.ca>.

Alexi Baccardax Westcott reported the following:

- 'The Ocean We Want' session at the CZC 2014 Conference will consist of a facilitated workshop and a mentorship session focused on the viewpoint of youth. Participation will include high school students, university students (graduate and undergraduate), young professionals, as well as mentors who currently work in coastal and ocean-related fields.
- In the interactive facilitated workshop, students will be asked to describe their vision for the future ocean. The workshop will engage participants to identify their perspective on the issues that the ocean and adjacent coasts currently face. The second half of the session will include facilitated discussions between groups of youth and mentors on avenues that participants can pursue to contribute to achieving their ocean vision.
- This half day 'The Ocean We Want' youth session will be held on the afternoon of Tuesday, June 17th at the CZC 2014 conference venue, the World Trade and Convention Centre, in downtown Halifax.
- Please email Alexi Baccardax Westcott at aczisc@dal.ca if you are interested in participating in the planning / facilitation of the session. To register for the session go to: <http://www.theoceanwewant.eventbrite.com>.

SCIENCE ATLANTIC: Lois Whitehead, Executive Director, Science Atlantic reported the following:

- See the presentation "**Key Elements for Successful Rebranding**" posted [online](#).

INTERNATIONAL OCEANS INSTITUTE CANADA: Paul Boudreau reported the following:

- Coastal Zone Canada 2014 Conference is 15-19 June 2014 has invited outstanding keynote speakers including the Right Honourable Paul Martin, Global Ocean Commission and Dr. Francis Zwiers, Director and CEO of the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium based in Victoria, British Columbia, who will present a talk on the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.
- The 2nd World Small-Scale Fisheries Congress will be held 21-25 September 2014, in Merida, Mexico. The main theme is Options and Opportunities for Small- Scale Fisheries. The conference is sponsored by the Too Big To Ignore Project of the Global Partnership for Small Scale Fisheries Research.

GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA: Bill Whitman, NS Coastal Secretariat, Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, reported the following:

- The Coastal Secretariat has been focussed on Coastal Zone Canada 2014 committee work and the Gulf of Maine Council 25th Anniversary preparations. They are exploring tools for geospatial coastal planning.

- Brad Fay was the roundtable judge and Nicole Hynes was the winner.

9. COINATLANTIC THEME HIGHLIGHT: PROTECTED AREAS

- COINAtlantic - Coastal and Ocean Information Network Atlantic: *Reliable Access - Best Information - Informed Decisions*

- The Coastal and Ocean Information Network Atlantic (COINAtlantic) is an initiative of the ACZISC. It is working to provide open access to data, information and applications relevant to Atlantic Canada. The morning of Thursday, May 8th was spent on the theme focus of Protected Areas with four presentations:

- **Moving Forward with Marine Protected Area Network Planning in the Scotian Shelf Bioregion**, Marty King, Oceans and Coastal Management Division, DFO.
- **The Nova Scotia Nature Trust - Protecting our Coast through Private Land Conservation**, Peter Green, Conservation Coordinator, Nova Scotia Nature Trust.
- **Nova Scotia's New Coastal Protected Areas**, David MacKinnon, Systems Planning Coordinator, Protected Areas and Ecosystems Branch, Nova Scotia Environment.
- **Ecological Assessment of Sable Island**, Bill Freedman, Dalhousie University, and Martin Willison, Friends of Sable Island Society.

The meeting presentations are posted [online](#).

- A short discussion was held on how to make the coastal protected area information (data/maps/metadata) mentioned in the presentations made available online.

10. ADJOURNMENT

- ACZISC Meeting #72 adjourned at 1200 hrs on Thursday, 8 May 2014.