

ACZISC



DRAFT MINUTES OF ACZISC MEETING #74

ATLANTIC COASTAL ZONE
INFORMATION STEERING COMMITTEE

Wednesday 11 February 2015
Industry Seminar Room
Marine Institute, 155 Ridge Road, St. John's, NL.

UPCOMING ACZISC MEETINGS

- **6-7 May 2015:** ACZISC Meeting #75, Fredericton, NB
- **16-17 September 2015:** ACZISC Meeting #76, Halifax, NS
- **3-4 February 2016:** ACZISC Meeting #77, Charlottetown, PEI
- **11-12 May 2016:** ACZISC Meeting #78, St. John's, NL

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

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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 #74 to order at 0900 hrs on Wednesday, 11 February 2015. He welcomed members and guests. A roundtable introduction of all of the participants followed.

2. *AGENDA, MINUTES and STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS*

The provisional agenda for ACZISC Meeting #74 was approved. The draft minutes of ACZISC Meeting #73 (17-18 September 2014, Halifax, Nova Scotia) were reviewed and approved. The final [minutes](#) are posted online. • The action items from Meeting #73 were reviewed by Andy Sherin.

3. *DATES of UPCOMING ACZISC MEETING*

- ACZISC Meeting #78 was scheduled for 11-12 May 2016 in St. John's, NL.

4. **PRESENTATIONS and DISCUSSION**

- **Gulf of St. Lawrence Integrated Oceans Management**, Melissa Abbott, Department of Fisheries and Oceans. *Scheduled only, this presentation was cancelled.*
- **Developing a Coastal Characterization Information Service for the Island of Newfoundland**, ACZISC Secretariat.
- **Analysis of NL Beaches with High Vulnerability to Petroleum**, Kristie Duncan, Memorial University.
- **Ocean Governance Priorities and Coastal Management Areas in NL**, Nicole Hynes, Fisheries and Aquaculture, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and Dawn Mercer, DFO.
- **Crowd-sourcing global small-scale fisheries data: The Information System on Small-Scale Fisheries (ISSF)**, Rodolphe Devillers, Memorial University.
- **Coastal exposure, sensitivity, and vulnerability to Petroleum Pollution, Newfoundland**, Norm Catto, Department of Geography, Memorial University. *Scheduled only, this presentation was cancelled due to weather; however the PDF is available online.*

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

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

NORTHEAST AVALON ACAP: Phoebe Metcalfe, Environmental Technologist reported the following:

NAACAP conducted a coastal project in the communities of Bay Bulls and Witless Bay this year. They conducted beach profiling along three beaches in Witless Bay, which was assisted by the NL Geological Survey, and took photographs for comparison. NAACAP also interviewed residents to determine areas that have been impacted by past extreme weather events to highlight areas that may be of concern in the future, especially with the changes to weather pattern associated with climate change. NAACAP also acted as a liaison between the two municipalities and others conducting coastal work in the areas, attending and assisting with arranging meetings with council members and researchers. To engage the public in coastal monitoring and raise awareness of coastal processes, NAACAP also presented to Science classes at Mobile Central High (the high school servicing) the two communities.

NAACAP plans to expand this project to encompass other Northeast Avalon Peninsula communities, continuing beach profiling and also contributing to Max Liboiron's beach plastics monitoring.

NAACAP is always interested in learning of others works and having conversations about how there can be collaboration towards a likeminded goal. We would also welcome input related to coastal processes and climate change so that we can enhance our knowledge base.

EAST COAST RESPONSE CORPORATION: Chris Aylward, reported the following:

- ECRC is an oil spill response organization, owned by oil four companies. In the case of an oil spill, the polluter is the party responsible for cleanup. ECRC manages three Regions that contain 6 staffed and equipped Response Centres:

Great Lakes Region

- [Corunna](#)
- Atlantic Region
- [Dartmouth](#)
 - [St-John's](#)

Quebec Region

- [Québec](#)
- [Sept-Îles](#)
- [Verchères](#)

Headquarters Office

- [Ottawa](#)

- A lot of the information that ECRC collects is proprietary. There is currently a focus on better protection and response for tidal inlets.

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

- Work is focusing on education and also, the invasive species, green crab.

- The Provincial Government of NL has released "Newfoundland and Labrador Sustainable Aquaculture Strategy 2014". The new strategy addresses sustainability by committing to the implementation of a provincial fish health management plan, as well as encouraging enhancements to existing regional management plans. The Newfoundland and Labrador Sustainable Aquaculture Strategy 2014 was developed using feedback received from more than 120 participants who engaged in aquaculture consultations that took place in November and December of 2013. Participants included representatives from industry, academia, non-governmental organizations, Aboriginal organizations, and municipalities -

<http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2014/fishaq/1216n08.aspx>.

- See Nicole's presentation, given along with Dawn Mercer, DFO: **Ocean Governance Priorities and Coastal Management Areas in NL**. The meeting presentation is posted on the ACZISC [website](#).

GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA: Chantel Nixon, Department of Natural Resources reported the following:

1. Co-hosted by the Geological Survey of Newfoundland and Labrador and Memorial University, the Canadian Quaternary Association (CANQUA) will be holding its next biennial meeting from 17-20 August in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. The CANQUA 2015 program includes several topical sessions, including one on **past, present and future coastal change** (see description below). For details on the conference and other sessions, see: <http://canqua2015.com>.

Session: Coastal evolution: past trends, current issues, and future hazards

Co-chairs: Melanie Irvine (melanieirvine@gov.nl.ca; Geological Survey of NL and LAB) and Chantel Nixon (Chantel.Nixon@novascotia.ca; Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources)

Description: Sea-level rise for the next 100 years at global and local scales is generally well-understood, developed by sophisticated models that have been tested with historical and paleo-sea-level records. Predicting coastal evolution, driven in part by relative sea-level rise and other impacts related to climate change, is less established, owing partly to heterogeneity in the physical and biological characteristics of coastal environments. Nonetheless, the biological, ecological, economic, and cultural significance of the coastal zone warrants accurate predictions of coastal evolution, especially in terms of vulnerability to flooding and erosion. Researchers working on questions related to past, present and future coastal changes are invited to present their work in this broadly-themed session. We welcome micro- to macro-scale studies on coastal geomorphology and dynamics, impacts of a changing climate, monitoring and modelling coastal change, new methodologies and approaches in coastal research, and implications for land-use planning.

2. **Atlantic Geology** is a journal covering all aspects of the geology of Atlantic Canada and related areas. It publishes papers, notes and discussions on original research and review papers, where appropriate to the regional geology. For details on submitting papers to the journal visit the website: <http://journals.hil.unb.ca/index.php/ag>.

FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA: Dawn Mercer, Oceans and Coastal Management Division, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Newfoundland Region, reported the following:

Laurentian Channel Area of Interest:

-DFO had begun the development of the Laurentian Channel Marine Protected Area (MPA) Regulations under the Oceans Act, and the general public will have an opportunity to comment on the draft regulations through the Gazette I process which is expected to occur this spring/ summer.

DFO is also working on a MPA management and monitoring plan for the MPA with research and monitoring already occurring on the site (aerial surveys for marine mammals, seabirds, sharks and leatherbacks).

- When established the Laurentian Channel MPA will be one of the largest no-take fisheries MPAs in Canada – 11,619 square kilometers, and depths of 86 - 435 meters.

MPA Network:

-The NL shelves and the Gulf of St. Lawrence MPA Network Strategies are being sent for

review by the Regional Oversight Committee on Oceans Management in February and will be following up with stakeholders in March.

Corals and Sponge Strategy for Eastern Canada:

- The oceans Program has developed a Corals and Sponge Conservation Strategy to protect corals and sponges in eastern Canadian waters by identifying conservation, management and research objectives for five DFO regions. The strategy has been approved by the five DFO regions involved with its development, and will soon be made available on the DFO national website.

Marine Protected areas:

- Newfoundland and Labrador have two established Marine Protected Areas, Gilbert Bay in Labrador to protect the Golden Cod and in Eastport to help ensure a sustainable lobster fishery. Both MPAs will be celebrating their 10th anniversaries in 2015. These MPAs have long established science monitoring programs that will be continuing again this year.
-In addition to the established monitoring programs DFO will be conducting some multi-beam work in Eastport to get a better understanding of the lobster habitat there. A workshop is being held in Gilbert Bay to provide local stakeholders some information on different research projects happening within the MPA as well as to gather input and feedback from stakeholders regarding the MPA.

SCIENCE ATLANTIC: Jillian Westcott, Marine Institute reported the following:

About Science Atlantic:

- Established over fifty years ago by the Deans of Science from Atlantic Canadian Universities.
-Mandate to promote science, education and research across Atlantic Canada, focusing on the undergraduate level. Promote science career options to high school students.
- Board range of disciplines represented, including, Physics and Astronomy, Biology, Chemistry, Animal Care, Aquaculture and Fisheries, Environment, Psychology, Earth Science, Exercise Physiology, Computer Science, Mathematics and Statistics.
- Hold annual student conferences in disciplines, speaker tours and award prizes for novel science by undergraduate and graduate students from 18 Atlantic Canadian Universities.

About the Aquaculture and Fisheries Committee:

-Representatives from most of Atlantic Canadian Universities undertaking education and research in aquaculture and fisheries disciplines.
- Created nearly 25 years ago focusing on discipline specific student research at the undergraduate and graduate levels.
- A variety of disciplines are included in the conference for students, as long as their focus is aquaculture / fisheries, including biology, ecology, environmental science, fish health, oceanography, physiology, biochemistry, geomatics, etc.

ACZISC SECRETARIAT: Andy Sherin, Director, reported the following:

- CoastGIS 2015 and ICAN 7 will be held in Cape Town, South Africa in May 2015, (ICAN, 19-21April and CoastGIS 2015, 22-24 April).
- BIO-Oceans Association has published of a major treatise reviewing the history and marine

research accomplishments at Canada's Bedford Institute of Oceanography over five decades primarily in the Atlantic and Arctic Oceans. The book is titled: Voyage of Discovery: Fifty Years of Marine Research at Canada's Bedford Institute of Oceanography. More information and order form: <http://nsis.chebucto.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/VOD-Announcement-final.pdf>.

-GeoAlliance Canada is a new umbrella organization that will address sector-wide strategic priorities by pooling the energy and resources of existing business, non-profit, education and government organizations in the "geo" sector. The launch of GeoAlliance Canada is the culmination of several years of hard work within the Canadian Geomatics Community Round Table (CGCRT) - <http://geoalliance.ca/en>.

- Nicole Hynes was the roundtable judge and Emily was the winner.

6. COINATLANTIC WORKSHOP - Reducing Petroleum Vulnerability

- This workshop was cancelled due to weather conditions (morning of 12 February 2015). A short discussion on the project was held during Wednesday, 11 February 2015. In *Section 4 - Presentations and discussion* there are two presentations on this subject. The first was given by Kristie Duncan during the meeting on 11 February; the second was to be given by Norm Catto on 12 February 2015 but was cancelled due to weather. The PDF of each presentation is available [online](#).

- Project summary:

The ACZISC Secretariat, in collaboration with Dr. Norm Catto at the Department of Geography at Memorial University, is conducting the project "Reducing vulnerability of coastal habitats to petroleum contamination on the Island of Newfoundland" through funding from the Environment Canada Atlantic Ecosystem Initiative. The project is focusing on seven communities on the Island of Newfoundland chosen based on previous studies. The objectives of the project are to identify vulnerable coastal habitats and petroleum contamination risks, and to investigate methods for reducing vulnerability.

7. ADJOURNMENT

- ACZISC Meeting #74 adjourned at 1600 hrs on Wednesday, 11 February 2015.

Meeting Group Photo:

