

MINUTES OF ACZISC MEETING #22

Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee

Date: Wednesday, 15 October 1997

Location: Chancellor Room, Wu Centre
University of New Brunswick
Fredericton, NB

NAME	AFFILIATION	TEL. NO.
Present: * indicates ACZISC member		
Don Amos*	Public Works and Government Services Canada	(902) 496-5009
Sean Brilliant	ACAP Saint John Inc.	(506) 652-2227
Michael Butler*, Chair	Oceans Institute of Canada	(902) 494-1977
Réjean Castonguay*	Province of New Brunswick	(506) 453-3917
Susan Farquhason	Eastern Charlotte Waterways Inc.	(506) 755-6001
Brad Fay*	Province of Nova Scotia	(902) 424-4966
Betty Godin	NB Dept. of Municipalities, Culture and Housing	(506) 453-2171
Stephen Hartley	Association of NB Land Surveyors	(506) 458-8266
Larry Hildebrand*	Environment Canada	(902) 426-9632
Ken Kinney	NB Dept. of Municipalities, Culture and Housing	(506) 453-2171
Laureen Kinney	Canadian Hydrographic Service	(902) 426-3497
Claudette LeBlanc	Oceans Institute of Canada	(902) 494-1977
John Legault	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	(506) 851-6221
Art Longard*	Province of Nova Scotia	(902) 424-4560
John MacLeod	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	(902) 566-6848
John Walker	GANS/GIAC Atlantic and Champlain Institute (representing Paul Currie*)	(902) 420-1435
Andy Sherin*	Natural Resources Canada	(902) 426-7582
Eric Theriault*	Environment Canada	(902) 426-9558
Larry Wilson*	Canadian Coast Guard	(902) 426-9022

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS**

Mike Butler, ACZISC Chair, called Meeting #22 to order at 08:30 hrs. He welcomed members and guests and thanked Réjean Castonguay for making arrangements for the meeting room, including the computer and Internet connection, and the Province of New Brunswick for providing lunch.

Mike introduced Larry Wilson, Director, Marine Programs, as the new representative of the Canadian Coast Guard. A roundtable introduction of all participants followed.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA, AND REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING #21**

The provisional Agenda for Meeting #22 was reviewed. Mike Butler commented that the standard agenda format had been changed to accommodate the attendance of a number of ACZISC members at the Metadata Satellite Video Conference scheduled for 15:00 hrs. The agenda was approved (copy attached).

The minutes of ACZISC Meeting #21 were reviewed and the following revisions were made:

Page 13: **FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA**: 3rd paragraph ... "The Bay of Fundy to Cap Breton has been completed..." *should read* "The Bay of Fundy to **Cape** Breton has been completed..."

Page 14: **NOVA SCOTIA**: 3rd paragraph ... "The first draft was updated electronically by participating departments." *should read* "The first draft **will be** updated electronically by participating departments."

The minutes were approved with the above revisions. The revised minutes will be posted on the ACZISC website at <http://is.dal.ca/aczisc/aczisc> in WP5.1 format.

3. **STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS**

The status of the Action Items from Meeting #21 were reviewed. All Action Items were carried out other than the following:

ACTION 21.10: *Claudette LeBlanc to post "Meeting Highlights" in HTML format in the ACZISC Homepage.*

STATUS: Claudette questioned the necessity for this Action Item as she felt that the minutes served that purpose. She added that it would be difficult to select Meeting Highlights because the priorities of each ACZISC member in terms of what should be included in the Highlights would be different. This concern was discussed. It was concluded that the Highlights would be a valuable addition to the ACZISC Homepage and that they should be written from the perspective of the ACZISC Secretariat.

ACTION 22.1: *ACZISC Secretariat to post "Meeting Highlights" in HTML format in the ACZISC Homepage ASAP.*

4. **ROUNDTABLE REVIEW OF COASTAL ZONE ACTIVITIES**

Mike Butler commented that the Roundtable was regarded as the most important component of ACZISC meetings by several members. It is considered to be an effective means of communication and a useful mechanism for coordination and collaboration.

PUBLIC WORKS AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES CANADA: Don Amos reported the following:

- Don has been on special assignment for the last year and will be retiring at the end of March 1998.

- A new Spatial Data group has been formed within PWGSC; it is managed by Bill Blight. Bill will be named as Don's replacement on the ACZISC. He was involved extensively in the Fixed Link project.
- PWGSC's hydrographic activities are ongoing; however, there have been significant reductions in dredging and surveys. The Department continues to work closely with the Canadian Hydrographic Service and the Geological Survey of Canada.

AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA: John MacLeod reported the following:

- Membership on the ACZISC is being considered by AgriCan.
- An AgriCan group is being formed in the Maritime region for data management. It will involve the centres in Fredericton, Charlottetown and Truro. Initially the group will be dealing with geo-referenced data for several crops collected by yield monitors.
- The PEI Round Table on Resource Land Use and Stewardship recently submitted its report. Some of the recommendations of the report are controversial. In particular, farmers are concerned with the recommendation to ban livestock access to all streams; this has been recommended due to their impact re erosion, nutrients and coliform, especially in aquaculture zones. Further discussions are anticipated over the next few months.
- The Round Table report was written by individuals of diverse backgrounds with particular reference to the 1990 report of the PEI Commission on Land Use. The "language" of the Commission report has caused some difficulties in interpretation as it is written in layman language and a lot of terms are either left out or not well defined.
- The Round Table also recommended that more resources be made available for monitoring; that state of the land studies be carried out regularly; and that Environment Canada carry out water quality monitoring.

ACTION 22.2: ACZISC Secretariat to obtain copies of the report of the PEI Round Table on the Land for distribution to ACZISC members.

NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA/GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA - ATLANTIC:

Andy Sherin reported the following:

- The GSC Atlantic has commenced a significant project re sea-level rise on the north shore of PEI. Three surveys were conducted in the summer for the project; the surveys will also be used for the Parks Canada study on the effects of the former causeway at Rustico Island. Andy added that there had been significant changes in the area since the causeway was built in 1965. He displayed two maps produced by the GSC: PEI National Park/Rustico Island Survey Areas; and PEI National Park/Rustico Island Colour Sonar Imagery.
- Andy circulated two reports for review: the CoastGIS 97 Symposium proceedings, and the Report on Cruise 97092: Frederick Creed - A Survey of Milne Bank, Northumberland Strait.
- A multi-disciplinary project in the Bay of Fundy was completed recently; the project was carried out with the NS Department of Natural Resources and the CHS. Large beds of horse mussels, 4 m high and up to 60 km long, were delineated. The benthic ecology is being analyzed by David Wildish, DFO; Ralph Stea, NS Department of Natural Resources, Minerals and Energy Branch, is also participating. Summary results of the study will be presented at the next ACZISC meeting.
- A study is being carried out in Southwestern NS re linkages between lobster habitat and lobster production. Peter Lawton, DFO, is participating in the study. Andy displayed a map produced by the GSC entitled *Zonal Lobster Offshore Research Project Sidescan Sonar Mosaic - West of Ram Island* (Lobster Bay near Pubnico, NS). Similar projects have been carried out in the Val Comeau and Stonehaven coastal regions of Northeastern NB.

- The Geomatics Atlantic Conference scheduled for Halifax on 28-29 October 1997 will feature a workshop on Copyright in the Geomatics Sector. The workshop will be held on 27 October.
- Kimberley Edwardson attended CoastGIS 97 held in Aberdeen, Scotland from 29-31 August 1997. Kimberley and Andy have been approached re holding the conference in Canada in 1999. The International Cartographic Association (ICA), a sponsor of the CoastGIS conferences, will be holding its 19th conference in Ottawa from 14-21 August 1999. However, there is a potential conflict with the 1999 CCSEA Conference which will be held in Victoria. Andy will pursue possible collaboration with CCSEA and with the ACZISC.

ENVIRONMENT CANADA: Larry Hildebrand reported the following:

- Larry was in New Zealand in September. New Zealanders expressed a great deal of interest in the ACZISC and its activities and data management with community groups and other stakeholders in the coastal zone.
- ACAP is now six years old; the program is scheduled to come to an end in March 1998. There are currently 13 ACAP sites in Atlantic Canada. Because of the success of the ACAP program, EC would like to see, at a minimum, the 13 sites continue to operate. Meetings and discussions are taking place with other federal departments and the provinces to explore interest in creating an umbrella, combined program and building linkages. The response has been positive. It is expected that the new direction for the ACAP sites will be resolved by April 1998.
- The U.S. Coastal Society will meet in July 1998 (Williamsburg, Virginia); one focus will be on data and information.
- The Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Environmental Workshop is scheduled for 5-8 November 1997 in Miramichi, NB.

Eric Theriault reported:

- EC was tasked to develop a National Sensitivity Mapping Program in response to the recommendations of the Brander Smith Panel on Tanker Safety. The mapping is being done at 1:50 000 from base maps derived from the NTS 1:250 000. The data includes coastal geomorphology, biological resources, including fisheries and vegetation, human usage, infrastructure and logistical support and land classification. A user interface has been developed. The WWW site for the Atlantic Regional Sensitivity Mapping Program is located at <http://www.ns.ec.gc.ca/mapping/index.htm>.

Eric distributed copies of an information booklet entitled *Sensitivity Mapping - A Discussion of the Development of Sensitivity Maps and their Role in Protecting the Environment*.

NEW BRUNSWICK: Réjean Castonguay stated that the NB Coastal Lands program was progressing well. He introduced Ken Kinney and Betty Godin, Land Use Branch, NB Department of Municipalities, Culture and Housing, as two pillars of the coastal program.

Ken Kinney: Ken, responsible for the development of the land policy component of the NB Coastal Program, briefed participants on NB's commitment to the Program and the status of policy development. Ken stated the following:

- Approval of the draft coastal land use policy was obtained from Cabinet. Approval was also received for the formulation of regulations under the Planning Act. This is being done by the Department of Municipalities in collaboration with the Department of Justice.
- A key challenge will be the implementation of the "precautionary principle" and the identification of its relationship to regulations.

- The Department of Municipalities is working on a document for release to the public - *Protecting our Coastal Resources*. The document will interpret regulations.
- The areas to which the coastal lands policy applies are identified in the coastal mapping series.
- Timeline: The Province is planning to hold open houses beginning early 1998 to get feedback on the coastal lands policy and regulations. The first open house will be held in Bouctouche. Full implementation of the policy is planned for the end of 1998/early 1999.

In response to Larry Hildebrand's query as to the status of the marine policy, Ken stated that Barry Jones would be present later in the afternoon to explain its status (*refer to page 13 - New Brunswick Coastal Marine Policy*).

Betty Godin: Betty is responsible for coordinating the NB Coastal Mapping Project. She reviewed activities to date and future plans; a copy of her overheads are attached. Betty added:

- The interdepartmental NB Coastal Zone Committee, chaired by Réjean Castonguay, reviews plans and proposals for the NB Coastal Mapping Project. The mapping is being driven by the coastal policy and efforts are made to meet the requirements of various departments.
- Landward the mapping will include the protection buffers above the intertidal zone created by the Coastal Land Use Policy: a 30 metre coastal features set-back area with restricted development and the adjacent 470 metre coastal area with limited development. The district planning commissions will be responsible for the management of the set-back areas.
- Seaward the mapping is being done to the ordinary low water line; mapping to the low low water line will be done in the future if appropriate data can be accessed.
- Mapping upriver is based on the extent of salt water penetration, other than for the two major rivers where it is the Reversing Falls Bridge for the Saint John River and the Morrissey Bridge for the Miramichi River.
- The coastal mapping series is based on the ETB97.
- The first 1:10 000 coastal base maps to be produced will be for the Bouctouche region (9 maps). The remainder of Kent County will then be completed.
- The frequency of update has not been determined.

Réjean added that the prime mapping files would be 1 metre resolution, 24 bit and 131 MB in size. Compression software in the range of 10 to 1 will reduce the size of the files.

COMMUNITY GROUPS: Susan Farquhason stated that each ACAP site is a separate entity and is developed based on individual community concerns. She reported on the Eastern Charlotte Waterways ACAP site for which she is Executive Director:

- A development plan is being prepared based on an environmental quality assessment. The plan is scheduled for completion in April 1998.
- Activities being undertaken by Eastern Charlotte Waterways include:
 - ARP, the Aquaculture Recycling Program
 - The Southwestern Shellfish Committee has developed a plan for the establishment of a microbiology laboratory as a replacement for the recently closed Blacks Harbour lab. The plan will be submitted to the Government on 3 November 1997.
 - A Community Action Plan for emergency response is being developed as part of the Community Action Partnership Program with the CCG.
 - The Magaguadavic watershed, an area of 1600 sq. mi., is being mapped at 1:50 000 using MapInfo. The information will be linked into the NB Coastal Mapping Program.

- A river classification guidebook is being prepared.

Sean Brilliant, Executive Director of ACAP Saint John, stated that the ACAP sites collaborated closely. They operate as community-based environmental planning groups; they are multi-stakeholder with members derived from the whole community. For each dollar core funding provided by EC, \$4 to \$12 are generated. This does not include in-kind support. Sean reported on ACAP Saint John:

- A comprehensive environmental management plan has been completed.
- One of the biggest environmental concerns in Saint John is sewage: only one half is treated. Another concern is Marsh Creek where pure creosote products have been disposed.
- Other issues of concern include water conservation and urban pollution.
- A Research and Development group is carrying out a survey of PAH sources. Ballast and bilge water are known to be major contributors.
- Other projects include: water monitoring at 22 sites, beach cleaning in partnership with the Eastern Charlotte Waterways, paint swaps, etc.

FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA: John Legault commented that DFO was dynamic, fluid and flexible, in other words, still restructuring. He reported the following:

- An Oceans Act Coordinating Office has been established at BIO; the Director is Faith Scattolon, former assistant to Neil Bellefontaine, Regional Director General, DFO Maritimes Region. The unit will be staffed by approximately 8 personnel with planning and inventory groups in Halifax at BIO and in Moncton. It may also include a staff person from each of Policy, the CCG and CHS. Functions of the Coordinating Office will include mapping and data management.
- The former Gulf Region and Scotia Fundy Region are attempting to meld their datasets re coastal resources and habitat. The next step will be to develop guidelines and standards for coastal mapping for the DFO Maritimes Region.
- It is extremely important that consultations take place soon between DFO and the Provinces re coordination between the Oceans Act and the provincial coastal policy initiatives.

Discussion:

Ken Kinney: NB is still at a preliminary stage in terms of the marine component of the NB Coastal Program. The Province is considering the establishment of a CZM Office which would be responsible for consultation.

Mike Butler: Concerns about the lack of a consultation process between DFO and the Provinces re coastal policies have been expressed for at least two years.

Art Longard reinforced Mike's comment and added that this concern had been discussed repeatedly at high levels for some time. The need for the federal government and the provinces to work together to develop policy has been identified by federal/provincial committees and working groups.

Laureen Kinney enquired if the ACZISC could provide a neutral ground for liaison between DFO and the Atlantic provinces.

Larry Hildebrand: DFO is following the traditional method of developing policy, that is develop it internally and then send it out for consultation. He added that it would be in accordance with the revised ACZISC Terms of Reference for the ACZISC to organize federal/provincial consultations. Initially this could be a meeting to review status of the policy which is considered to be at a critical stage. Members endorsed this suggestion.

ACTION 22.3: ACZISC Secretariat to organize a meeting ASAP to review the status of the current and proposed coastal policy initiatives of the federal government and the four Atlantic Provinces.

Laureen Kinney, Canadian Hydrographic Service, reported the following:

- A new Environmental Prediction Centre has been established in Halifax. The Centre will focus on integrating atmospheric and ocean models.
- The 1998 Canadian Hydrographic Conference will take place in Victoria, BC from 10-12 March 1998. The theme of the Conference is *Turning Data into Dollars*. The URL for the Conference is <http://www.ios.bc.ca/ios/chs/pages/chc98.html>
- The Tide Gauge System is under review.
- A copy of the production report re the Electronic Navigation Charts and CHS charts is attached.

NOVA SCOTIA: Art Longard reported the following:

- A Committee, chaired by Peter Ricketts, Dalhousie University, is developing a proposal for the establishment of a Centre for Coastal Zone Management to be located initially at the OIC. A business case for the Centre is being prepared. The ACZISC representatives on the Committee have suggested that the Centre be regional. The Centre proposal is an initiative under the auspices of the NS Round Table on the Environment and the Economy.
- Coastal Zone 2000 has been put under the umbrella of the NS Round Table.
- Workshops have taken place in several locations in NS to determine how best to achieve stakeholder and community-based input in coastal zone management. A committee is summarizing the workshop recommendations and will be presenting the report next week.

Discussion:

Brad Fay: The issue emphasized by workshop participants was the need for governments at all levels to get their act together and collaborate. He added that it was important, however, for both communities and governments to rationalize their expectations. In terms of access to information, he suggested that the ACZISC could assist communities by providing a mechanism for making community project information available.

Larry Hildebrand concurred with Brad's statement.

Brad Fay reported the following:

- The GeoNova Advisory Committee holds monthly meetings. GeoNova has assumed the land information function of the former NS Land Use Committee. It promotes a corporate approach to the management and use of data and information in the Province and encourages the vertical integration of data.
- The NS Geomatics Centre has relocated to 160 Willow Street, Amherst, the site of the former Atlantic Provinces Centre for the Hearing Handicapped. The current emphasis of the Geomatics Centre is making information available, in particular property information, and completing the personal property registry.
- The second edition of the *Geographic Information Nova Scotia - Standards Manual* has been published. It is available at http://www.gov.ns.ca/homa/land/post/manual/t_o_c2.htm.
- A Land Use Classification Manual has been produced; it will facilitate the exchange of data.
- Five coastal base maps have been completed to date. A contract has been let to establish control in the Northumberland Strait region. The land information is derived from the 1:10 000 NSTDB and the hydrographic data is derived from CHS data and hard-copy charts. It is anticipated that the series will be completed in three years.
- The Province is considering ways of making topographic data available online. The initial focus will be on government data. Réjean Castonguay stated that NB was scheduled to have its topographic data available online in two months.

CANADIAN COAST GUARD: Larry Wilson reported on the activities of the CCG:

- The merger of the CCG and DFO has created the largest civilian marine fleet in Canada.
- Although not mandated to carry out marine research, the CCG provides platform support (vessels) to other government departments, agencies, academia, etc. to carry out this activity. The CCG fleet consists of: large and medium size icebreakers; research vessels; buoy tenders; search and rescue vessels; enforcement vessels; hovercraft; and other small vessels. The CCG also operates a fleet of helicopters and manages a fleet of fixed wing surveillance aircraft.
- CCG marine program responsibilities include: marine communications and traffic services; ice breaking; marine navigational aids; rescue, safety and environmental response; waterways development; and Navigational Waters Protection Act (NWPA) administration.
- CCG activities and issues related to the ACZISC include:
- CAPP (Community Action Partnership Program): The CAPP objectives include community awareness of environmental response and preparedness (oil spills); wildlife rehabilitation; and local contingency planning. The CCG is working closely with EC on this program.
- Right whale protection, an initiative of East Coast Ecosystem Group: This relates to vessel traffic management in the Bay of Fundy. The possible alteration of shipping lanes to avoid right whale concentrations will be discussed at meetings to be held on 20-21 October 1997. A traffic database is maintained by the CCG.
- The NWPA as it relates to the development of the provincial Coastal Policies.
- Navigational aids modernization: The CCG level of service is being adjusted as driven by the introduction of new navigation technologies (DGPS and ECDIS) and budget reductions of \$6.3 million over four years for the Nav Aids Program in the region.
- Ice pressure (acoustic) trials in the area of Confederation Bridge as it relates to the ice flow impact on the Bridge and the use of RADARSAT for ice imagery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence in support of ship routing.
- The CCG continues to be involved in survey work with PWGSC, e.g., Saint John Harbour and the Miramichi, where silting is a major problem.

5. ***ACZISC WORKPLAN***

Mike Butler reported on the recent ACZISC Review (refer to minutes of meeting #21). The possibility of the ACZISC becoming a registered non-profit association with a Board of Directors remains undecided. Larry Hildebrand commented that from an EC perspective it would be a positive move because it would raise the profile of the ACZISC and it would make it easier for the federal departments to transfer funds to the ACZISC. It would also help to focus discussions on a long term basis. Mike asked other ACZISC members to gauge support within their jurisdiction.

ACTION 22.4: ACZISC members to gauge support within their jurisdiction ASAP for the possibility of the ACZISC becoming a registered non-profit association or society and provide comments to the Secretariat.

MEMBERSHIP: Mike Butler reported on the status of ACZISC membership:

Province of Québec: Discussions are ongoing.

Province of Newfoundland: The issue of Newfoundland's lack of participation is ongoing. Recently some reporting on Newfoundland activities has been provided by Tim Anderson, DFO, and Randy Gillespie, CCMC. Mike requested assistance from members in bringing the Province on board.

ACTION 22.5: ACZISC members to assist the Secretariat in securing active participation by the Province of Newfoundland on the ACZISC through their contacts in Newfoundland.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada: Mike reported that he has been in contact with David Bailey, Director, Charlottetown Research Centre, re AgriCan membership on the ACZISC.

Aboriginal Representation: The Secretariat has been in contact with John Paul, Executive Director, Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs located in Amherst, NS.

Community Groups: Mike Butler stated that it had been difficult identifying umbrella organizations for community groups. Therefore, the ACZISC Secretariat will continue to invite community groups to participate in ACZISC meetings, when it is geographically convenient for them to do so.

Mike reported that other organizations were being considered for membership on the ACZISC, including:

- Health Canada: Sean Brilliant stated that the Community Animation Program (CAP) is a joint initiative of EC and Health Canada. CAP provides communities with resources and training to develop an Action Plan. Larry Hildebrand added that Health Canada is concerned with the quality of shellfish growing areas.
- National Defence: Laureen Kinney was supportive of National Defence being approached to become a member of the ACZISC. She volunteered her assistance.

ACTION 22.6: Mike Butler and Laureen Kinney to contact the Department of Defence by 30 Nov 1997 re potential membership on the ACZISC.

An up-to-date list of ACZISC members with mailing and email addresses, and telephone and fax nos. is attached.

WORKPLAN/BUDGET/FUNDING: Mike distributed copies of the 1997/98 ACZISC Workplan; 1996/97 and 1997/98 Budget; Membership Dues Revenue Summary 1996-1998; and Summary of Revenue Sources 1992-1997 (copies attached). Members were asked to review the Workplan and Budget and contact the Secretariat with comments.

ACTION 22.7: ACZISC members to review the proposed 1997/98 Workplan and provide comments to the ACZISC Secretariat ASAP.

ACTION 22.8: ACZISC members to review the proposed 1997/98 Budget and provide comments to the ACZISC Secretariat ASAP.

Mike reiterated that it was critical for the survival of the ACZISC Secretariat that ACZISC membership dues be paid and that federal funds be secured to match the contribution of the Council of Maritime Premiers. The Council has committed \$50K per year for three more years beginning in 1997/98; an MOU between the Council and the OIC is being prepared to that effect.

The proposal entitled *The Role of the ACZISC in the Implementation of the Oceans Act* and submitted to DFO Ottawa was distributed. The letter of response from Wayne Wouters, Deputy Minister, DFO was also distributed. Mr. Wouter's letter states that federal funds for the ACZISC will have to be cost shared by DFO Maritimes Region and other federal departments.

John Legault stated that the Oceans Act Coordinating Office at BIO was not an A-base office and as such would not have funds for the ACZISC.

Laureen Kinney suggested that a meeting of federal departments should take place to work out a cost-sharing formula; that DFO pay the federal matching funds immediately to the ACZISC; and that DFO collect from the other departments based on the agreed upon formula.

ACTION 22.9: ACZISC members from jurisdictions with outstanding membership dues to ensure that the dues are paid without further delay.

ACTION 22.10: Laureen Kinney, CHS, to organize a meeting of the federal departments represented on the ACZISC ASAP to discuss a cost-sharing formula for federal funding to match the CMP \$50K/year contribution to the ACZISC.

Andy suggested that a realistic fall-back position be developed if funding is not secured.

COMMUNICATIONS: The ACZISC Communications Working Group is chaired by Mike Butler. He reported that the major ACZISC modes of communication were: minutes of ACZISC meetings; ACZISC Homepage; Coastal Zone Info newsletter for registration packages of various conferences; Project Updates; and Monthly Email Updates to members and associates. Mike stated that the ACZISC Homepage was becoming the most efficient communication tool for the ACZISC. Andy Sherin added that the Meeting Highlights would also be an effective addition to the Homepage.

It was suggested that user statistics be prepared re the ACZISC Homepage. Claudette stated that she would obtain recent stats from Dalhousie University Computer Services and forward the information to members.

ACTION 22.11: Claudette LeBlanc to produce user statistics for the ACZISC Homepage and distribute to ACZISC members ASAP.

Brad Fay commented that, in addition to the ACZISC Homepage, one-page notices which could be mailed out, handed out at meetings, etc. were useful to publicize ACZISC activities.

Brad and Larry Hildebrand suggested that communities could benefit from the assistance of the ACZISC in terms of making their information available on the ACZISC Homepage. Laureen Kinney suggested that a one-page notice to that effect be prepared by the ACZISC.

ACTION 22.12: ACZISC Secretariat to prepare a one-page document ASAP for distribution to community groups and associations offering the ACZISC Homepage as a Clearinghouse for community information.

Mike reported that he had recently met with Dr. David Pugh, Secretary to the British Inter-Agency Committee on Marine Science and Technology (IACMST). Dr. Pugh was in Halifax to attend the Oceans 97 Conference. The ACZISC and IACMST agreed to exchange minutes.

Mike reminded members to bring notes re their presentation during the Roundtable Review component of ACZISC meetings as this was very helpful for the preparation of minutes.

COASTAL MAPPING: The Coastal Mapping Working Group is co-chaired by Curt Speight, NSGC and Eric Theriault, EC. Eric reported that the need to hold Coastal Mapping Workshops had been identified at the last ACZISC meeting. Efforts are being made to select a date suitable to all participants for the initial Workshop which will review four major federal coastal mapping programs in the region. It will be open to a limited number of participants - technical personnel and managers associated with each program.

Brad Fay added that the initial federal workshop must be followed by another involving personnel from federal and provincial departments and communities.

DATABASE DIRECTORY: Claudette LeBlanc reported on a meeting of the Database Directory Working Group held on 30 September; she distributed copies of the meeting report (copy attached). The Working Group recommended that:

- The Database Directory be updated and expanded ASAP; when possible the update should be carried out via electronic forms on the WWW.
- In-kind support be sought to carry out some of the programming tasks associated with the update.
- A strategy meeting be organized to discuss possible linkages between the Database Directory and other similar initiatives, the status of various metadata standards, and the restructuring of the Directory database.

Members concurred with the recommendations of the Working Group.

ACTION 22.13: Database Directory Working Group to organize a strategy meeting to review future directions for the ACZISC Database Directory prior to next meeting.

C-CODE AND STANDARDS: Andy Sherin, co-chair of the C-CODE (Consortium for Coastal and Ocean Data Exchange) Working Group and Réjean Castonguay, co-chair of the Coastal Mapping Standards Working Group discussed the merger of the two Groups as per the conclusions of the recent ACZISC Review. They recommended that the merger be carried out in light of the overlap between the two Groups, especially re the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure and national standards.

Members concurred with the recommendations of the Working Group and it was agreed that Réjean and Andy would co-chair the merged Working Group. Réjean and Andy added that they would be meeting the next day to review the activities of the new Group and to begin organizing an "awareness meeting/workshop".

ACTION 22.14: The chairs of the newly merged C-CODE and Standards Working Group (Andy Sherin and Réjean Castonguay) to meet on 16 Oct 1997 to document the objectives and to review the workplan for the new Working Group.

ACTION 22.15: Réjean Castonguay and Andy Sherin to organize an "awareness meeting/workshop" prior to next meeting:

- *to identify the standards-related programs and activities being carried out by various groups and committees in Canada and the role, if any, of the ACZISC in implementing standards.*
- *to review the status of the developing Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI) and its relationship to other similar national and international initiatives.*

6. **UPDATES**

ECONOMIC STUDY: Mike Butler briefed participants on the study entitled *Estimating the Economic Value of Coastal and Ocean Resources: The Case of Nova Scotia*. The study is being carried out by Maurice Mandale, former senior economist with APEC, and two of his associates. The contract is administered by the OIC and a Steering Committee has been established to monitor progress and deliverables.

Preliminary results indicate that coastal and ocean activities contribute approximately 14-18% to NS' GDP. These results will be presented at the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Environmental Workshop scheduled for 5-8 November 1997 in Miramichi, NB. The final report will be submitted early in 1998 and a presentation will be scheduled for an upcoming ACZISC meeting.

Mike stated that it is hoped that the study will be expanded to include the other Atlantic Provinces. He added that DFO would be carrying out a national study of companies associated with the coastal/ocean sector.

SOUTHERN GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE ENVIRONMENTAL WORKSHOP: The Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Environmental Workshop is scheduled for 5-8 November 1997 in Miramichi, NB. John Legault stated that the purpose of the Workshop was to identify issues in the Gulf region which require direct research, to prioritize these research requirements and to develop an Action Plan to tackle the issues. Efforts have been made to involve all stakeholders including federal departments, the provinces, communities, etc.

Art Longard expressed concerns that NS was not significantly involved. Mike Butler responded that the distribution of information re the Conference within the provinces and other jurisdictions was primarily the responsibility of the representatives on the Gulf Workshop organizing committee.

COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION: Canada is a participant in the Commission on Environmental Cooperation (CEC) established under NAFTA. The CEC is implementing the Global Programme of Action (GPA) via international regional programs. Two projects have been identified: the California Bight and the Gulf of Maine. Joe Arbour, EC, is co-chairing a CEC Task Group. Efforts are being made to collaborate with the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment. Joe will be making a presentation on the CEC to the Council.

Sean Brilliant stated that ACAP Saint John would be submitting a proposal to the CEC to hold a CEC Conference in Saint John in approximately 6-8 months.

GULF OF MAINE COUNCIL ON THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT: Art Longard reported that he had attended recent meetings of the GoM Council and Working Group. He commented that GoM is a unique international organization with membership by governments at the federal and provincial/state levels and industry. The Mussel Watch and other GoM programs are progressing well. Mike Butler added that the second GoM 5-year plan (1996-2001) is focused on habitat.

Larry Hildebrand stated that an Environmental Charter is being considered for the GoM based on the model developed for the Great Lakes. The Charter would contain statements of common principles and objectives; it would allow an increase in the number of people/agencies actively engaged in GoM programs and the establishment of partnerships with other stakeholders.

COASTAL ZONE CANADA CONFERENCE SERIES: Mike Butler stated that Larry Hildebrand is the president of the CZC Association.

Larry reported the following:

- Venues for the CZC conference series have been identified to the year 2008. The conferences are organized in consultation with the CZC Association.
- CZC'94 was held in Halifax. A Conference Statement and a Call for Action were produced.
- CZC'98 will take place in Victoria, BC from 30 August to 3 September 1998; it will have a community focus.
- CZC 2000 will take place in Saint John, NB. An organizing committee, chaired by Barry Jones, NB Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, is being established.
- The goal of the Conference series is to bring people with diverse backgrounds and perspectives together to further the agenda re ICZM.

Barry Jones reported the following:

- The organizing committee for CZC 2000 met for the first time on 7 October. The next meeting is scheduled in January 1998. Efforts will be made to have broad representation on the committee.
- A committee structure will be identified. Initially a sub-committee will define the focus for CZC 2000 and another will be responsible for program development.
- A brochure will be prepared for distribution at CZC'98.

NEW BRUNSWICK COASTAL MARINE POLICY: Barry Jones, NB Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, reported on the NB Coastal Marine Policy. The Committee on Land Use (CLURE 1993) had recommended that the coastal policy be separated into two components: land and marine. The marine component is being dealt with by the departments of Fisheries and Aquaculture and Natural Resources and Energy. A scoping document has been completed and is being reviewed. Background documents were analyzed and recommendations prepared and presented to the deputy ministers associated with CLURE at the end of September. Public consultation will take place prior to the implementation of the Coastal Marine Policy provisionally scheduled for the end of 1998/early 1999. The NB Government has stressed the need for links between the land and marine components of the coastal policy. These linkages occur via the Planning departments and community groups such as ACAP, etc.

7. ***ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS***

The following announcements were made:

- A Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Project (BOFEP) Workshop is scheduled for 14-15 November 1997 in St. Andrews, NB.
- The Canadian Conference for Fisheries Research is scheduled for 2-4 January 1998 in Kingston, ON.

Mike Butler reported on various documents and publications, located on the side tables, available for review or for distribution, including:

- *Backscatter*, the newsletter of the Alliance for Marine Remote Sensing
- A draft document re the proposed Centre for Coastal Zone Management
- *Let's Talk Green*, Environment Canada's newsletter
- *Groundfish Conservation Framework for Atlantic Canada*, FRCC July 97
- *Infrastructures for Sharing Geographic Information Among Environment Agencies*, PhD thesis, John Evans, MIT

- *Peace in the Oceans*, IOC Technical Series #47, UNESCO 1997.

8. ***OTHER BUSINESS***

No new business was discussed.

9. ***NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT***

ACZISC Meeting #23 is provisionally scheduled for Thursday, 26 February 1998 in Halifax.

ACZISC Meeting #22 adjourned at 17:00 hrs.