

# MINUTES OF ACZISC MEETING #27

## Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee

*Date:* Wednesday, 12 May 1999, 0830-1700 hrs.

*Location:* Boardroom, Animal and Plant Research Station  
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

---

<b>NAME</b>	<b>AFFILIATION</b>	<b>TEL. NO.</b>
<b>Present:</b> * indicates ACZISC member		
Tim Anderson*	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Newfoundland Region	(709) 772-2852
Cheryl Berube	Eskasoni Fish and Wildlife Commission	(902) 379-2024
David Boyce	Southeast Environmental Association (SEA), Cardigan Bay	(902) 838-0635
John Burka	Atlantic Provinces Council on the Sciences (APICS)*	(902) 566-0810
Michael Butler*, Chair	Council of Maritime Premiers and Oceans Institute of Canada	(902) 494-1977
Jim Calvesbert*	Canadian Coast Guard	(902) 426-9022
Andy Cameron*	Province of Nova Scotia	(902) 424-0406
Réjean Castonguay*	Province of New Brunswick	(506) 453-3917
Brad Fay*	Province of Nova Scotia	(902) 424-4966
Brad Firth	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	(506) 851-6221
Randy Gillespie*	Canadian Centre for Marine Communications and NATI	(709) 579-4872
Larry Hildebrand*	Environment Canada	(902) 426-2131
Barry Jones*	Province of New Brunswick	(506) 444-5749
Cheryl Knockwood	Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs	(902) 667-4007
Claudette LeBlanc	ACZISC Secretariat	(902) 494-3879
John Legault	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region (for Faith Scattolon*)	(506) 851-6221
Geoff Lewis	Industry Canada	(902) 426-9475
Neil Munro*	Parks Canada	(902) 426-2797
Dale Nicholson	Canadian Hydrographic Service (for Dick MacDougall*)	(902) 426-9558
Kenneth Paul*	First Nations, Atlantic Canada	(902) 426-3497
Brenda Penak	Bedeque Bay Environmental Management Association (BBEMA)	(902) 436-7090
Dick Pickrill	Geological Survey of Canada	(902) 426-5387
Jim Ramsay*	Province of Prince Edward Island	(902) 368-4075
Andy Sherin*	Natural Resources Canada	(902) 426-7582
Eric Theriault*	Environment Canada	(902) 426-9558
Mike Warren*	Government of Newfoundland and Labrador	(709) 729-3708

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS**

Mike Butler, ACZISC Chair, called Meeting #27 to order at 08:30 hrs. He welcomed members and guests and thanked Jim Ramsay for making arrangements for the meeting room and the Province of Prince Edward Island for providing lunch. A roundtable introduction of all participants followed.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA, AND REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING #26**

The provisional Agenda for Meeting #27 was reviewed. A presentation by Randy Gillespie on the proposed Marine Geospatial Data Infrastructure was added. It was also noted that Cheryl Berube would be replacing Charlie Dennis in making the presentation on the Eskasoni Fish and Wildlife Commission. The agenda was approved (copy attached).

The minutes of ACZISC Meeting #26 were reviewed and the following revisions were made:

**Page 3** **MEMBERSHIP:** Canadian Coast Guard: "Larry (Wilson) has been appointed Director General for the CCG." **should read** "Larry (Wilson) has been appointed Regional Director for the CCG."

**Page 5** **COMMUNICATIONS MEETING:** Discussion: "Andy Sherin added that there may be a need to rethink the entire ACZISC operations, i.e. committee structure, website, etc." **should read** "Andy Sherin added that there may be a need to rethink the entire ACZISC operations, i.e. committee structure, website, etc. in light of an expanded role vis-à-vis communities.

**Page 10** **NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR:** "AquaGIS was developed in collaboration with the Canadian Centre for Marine Communication." **should read** "AquaGIS was developed in collaboration with the Canadian Centre for Marine Communication, DFO, CCG and the aquaculture industry."

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

3. **STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS**

Action Items from Meeting #26 and those outstanding from previous meetings were reviewed. All Action Items were carried out or are in progress other than the following:

**ACTION 26.2:** *Executive Committee and Secretariat to develop a policy and procedures for replacing long-standing non-active ACZISC members prior to next meeting.*

**STATUS:** This has not been done but will be addressed prior to the next meeting.

**ACTION 26.6:** *Communications Working Group and Secretariat to develop a concise vision statement/slogan for the ACZISC, for use on the letterhead, website, business card, etc. prior to next meeting.*

**ACTION 26.7:** *Members to contact Secretariat ASAP with suggestions for an ACZISC vision statement/slogan.*

**STATUS:** This has not been done but will be addressed prior to the next meeting.

4. **ACZISC WORKPLAN**

**ACZISC SECRETARIAT:** Mike Butler reported that the ACZISC Secretariat continues to be based at the Oceans Institute of Canada located on the Dalhousie University campus. The Secretariat has access to the services of the OIC Secretary/Receptionist and the Financial Officer. The OIC is presently undergoing a review by CIDA, the main funder of OIC projects.

John Burka enquired why the ACZISC Secretariat was located at the OIC, whether there would be benefits to moving it to an agency such as DFO, and if Dalhousie University contributed financially to the OIC and the ACZISC.

Mike responded that the ACZISC Secretariat had moved from the CMP to the OIC in 1993. As a non-governmental institution, it was felt that the OIC provided a neutral base from which the ACZISC could operate more effectively. There are some OIC administration costs related to secretarial and financial services but there are also benefits such as free rent, heating and electricity and free access to the Dalhousie University computer network for email, the ACZISC website, etc.

Réjean Castonguay suggested that the in-kind contributions made by the OIC and Dalhousie University be shown in the ACZISC 1999-2000 Proposed Budget.

***ACTION 27.1: ACZISC Secretariat to document in-kind contributions made by the OIC and Dalhousie University in the Proposed ACZISC Budget prior to next meeting.***

Draft Operating Guidelines for the ACZISC Secretariat have been prepared and subsequently revised (attached) based on suggestions made at the previous ACZISC meeting. Mike Butler requested further comments from members.

***ACTION 27.2: Members to further review the draft Operating Guidelines for the ACZISC Secretariat and contact the Secretariat with comments prior to next meeting.***

**MEMBERSHIP:** Mike Butler reported on changes in ACZISC membership:

Canadian Coast Guard: Jim Calvesbert, A/Director, Marine Programs, was welcomed as the new CCG representative on the ACZISC.

Industry Canada: Geoff Lewis, Sector Officer, Manufacturing and Processing Technologies Branch, was welcomed as a representative of Industry Canada. He joins Brian McShane in representing the Department.

National Defence: Lieutenant-Commander Jim Bradford, the current representative of National Defence, has resigned from the ACZISC. He has suggested that the ACZISC Secretariat contact other divisions in the Department to identify more appropriate representation on the ACZISC.

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

**WORKPLAN/BUDGET/FUNDING:** Mike Butler distributed copies of the 1998-99 ACZISC Budget and the draft 1999-2000 ACZISC Secretariat Workplan. He added that the Workplan had been reviewed by the Executive Committee on Monday, 10 May. He stated the following:

- A negative balance of \$10.6K in the 1998-99 Actual Budget has been brought forward to the 1999-2000 Proposed Budget. This negative balance in the 1998-99 Actual Budget is due to the following:
  - A \$2K negative balance brought forward from 1997-98.
  - Additional expenses incurred due to participation by the Secretariat in Coastal Zone Canada 98 in Victoria. Expenses were further increased as a result of the Air Canada pilots strike which delayed the return to Halifax by three days.
- The 1999-2000 Proposed Budget is based on the 1998-99 Actual Budget.
- The number of days allocated to each project/activity in the 1999-2000 Workplan has been adjusted.

Mike reported on the proposed financial contributions to the ACZISC via a MOU between the Council of Maritime Premiers (CMP) and the NS Federal Council:

- \$60K from the Maritime Provinces. He has been talking with Keith Wornell, Secretary to the CMP. In addition, Mr. Wornell will be approaching the Province of Newfoundland via the Conference of Atlantic Premiers re a \$10K contribution.
- \$60K from the federal departments. He has had discussions with Faith Scattolon, representative of the federal departments on the ACZISC.

*Discussion:*

Barry Jones enquired of Mike Butler if 80% of his time was spent on ACZISC matters.

Mike Butler responded that normally yes. However, recently less than 80% has been spent on the ACZISC and more on the OIC in an effort to stabilize the Institute which is undergoing restructuring, etc. These efforts could lead to part of his salary being paid by the OIC.

Larry Hildebrand asked for clarification on whether the federal contribution would remain at \$60K if Nfld contributes \$10K in addition to the \$60K from the Maritime Provinces.

Mike Butler: The amount of the federal contribution will be determined by the federal departments on the ACZISC. However, a minimum of \$60K will be required. The amount of the Nfld contribution is under negotiation.

Barry Jones expressed his concerns over the deficit currently shown in the 1999-2000 Proposed Budget and suggested adding \$16K under revenue to indicate a balanced budget.

Andy Sherin concurred with this.

Mike Butler: The ACZISC Secretariat will have to identify additional revenue to continue operating until the end of the 1999-2000 fiscal year. If these funds are not secured, the ACZISC Secretariat will cease to operate.

Geoff Lewis asked for clarification on the rate of ACZISC dues and if the ACZISC had reserve of funds to draw upon.

Mike Butler: Dues are currently \$1.5K per Maritime Province and \$3.5K per federal department. The dues will be maintained this year to assist with the cash flow until a provincial/federal agreement can be established. The ACZISC does not have a reserve of funds upon which it can draw.

Barry Jones enquired if the \$4.5K indicated under Revenue in the 1999-2000 Actual Budget would be considered part of the \$60K provincial contribution. Mike replied that it would be.

Dick Pickrill: The Federal Council is a vehicle for "communication" and not a funding body. The Federal Council may come up with an agreement for federal funding of the ACZISC but the responsibility would still be on the individual departments to pay their portion of the funding. He suggested that the contributions from the federal departments be listed individually under Revenue in the budget.

Larry Hildebrand briefed participants on the Federal Councils. He stated:

- There is a Federal Council in each province. They are composed of RDGs and Senior Managers and are vehicles for communication.
- The NS Federal Council, the largest in Atlantic Canada, has representation from 38 federal agencies. In a priority setting exercise recently carried out by the NS Federal Council, Sustainable Communities were identified as an area of focus. Several federal initiatives were documented which address this issue. There is little collaboration amongst them, making it difficult to get the "complete picture".
- A NS Federal Council sub-committee will be held on Monday, 17 May re Sustainable Communities. Garth Bangay, Environment Canada, is leading discussions. Nine federal agencies will participate in the meeting. The goal is to collaborate on federal Sustainable Communities initiatives and to carry out "practical" activities. This is where a link can be made between the ACZISC and the NS Federal Council.
- ACZISC representatives met with Bob Hoeg, Secretary to the NS Federal Council, last October to discuss areas of mutual interest and Council support for the ACZISC.
- The Federal Councils could act as a counterpart to the Council of Maritime Premiers or the Conference of Atlantic Premiers.
- In summary, collaboration between the ACZISC and the Federal Councils would result in increased federal participation on the ACZISC, additional funding and a federal body to which the ACZISC could report.

*Discussion:*

- Ken Paul expressed concern that the Federal Council route to secure federal funds would complicate matters more because the ACZISC would have to deal with the Federal Council in each of the four Atlantic Provinces.
- Dick Pickrill: This will not be a problem as 80% of all the federal agencies were represented on the NS Federal Council.
- Andy Sherin: Individual federal agencies would still have to make a funding commitment to support the ACZISC. He added that Sustainable Communities was not a significant component of the ACZISC Workplan.
- Larry Hildebrand: This should be seen as a challenge and not a roadblock. The ACZISC/Federal Council collaboration can be in the form of coordination of activities, access to data, etc. He suggested that a presentation on the Federal Council could be made at the next ACZISC meeting.
- Neil Munro: Sustainable Communities should be mentioned in the Briefing Notes for the Federal Council.
- Larry Hildebrand: The ACZISC will be discussed with the NS Federal Council again but there will be a delay of approximately 6 months before additional funds can be identified. There may be an opportunity for project funding in the interim.

Mike Butler asked members to comment on the draft 1999-2000 ACZISC Secretariat Workplan and Budget distributed at today's meeting and the Briefing Notes for the Federal Council (to be distributed by the Secretariat).

***ACTION 27.3: Members to further review the draft 1999-2000 ACZISC Secretariat Workplan and Budget and contact the Secretariat with comments prior to next meeting.***

***ACTION 27.4: Members to comment on the Briefing Notes prepared for the NS Federal Council ASAP.***

**COMMUNICATIONS:** The ACZISC Communications Working Group is chaired by Mike Butler. He stated that there was a detailed listing of ACZISC communication activities in the minutes of last ACZISC meeting (#26).

ACZISC Update:

- The Updates are prepared and distributed monthly via email.
- The Update format has been refined based on earlier suggestions: a title has been added to each news item to make it easier to focus on items of interest.
- Positive feedback has been received to date.

*Discussion:*

David Boyce stated that he reads the Updates thoroughly as they contain several items of interest.

Réjean Castonguay: The Updates are an excellent communication tool. He forwards them to the NB Coastal Zone Committee.

Larry Hildebrand: The Updates are useful and consistent in quality. He distributes them regularly to his network of contacts.

Andy Cameron: The Updates are a proactive communication tool.

Geoff Lewis: The Secretariat could consider adding a list of titles at the beginning of each Update.

ACZISC Website:

- The website is maintained on a regular and frequent basis. Claudette LeBlanc is the webmaster.
- User statistics for the website were distributed and reviewed (copy attached). Claudette stated that, in addition to the ACZISC Homepage, the most popular website items continue to be the "Inventory of Atlantic Coastal Mapping Projects" and "Maps and Imagery Online".

*Discussion:*

Larry Hildebrand: Links to the ACZISC Homepage are showing up in several websites, including international websites.

Mike Butler: The Communications Working Group will make an effort to review the design of the website and come up with a slogan for the ACZISC prior to the next meeting.

Atlantic Coastal Community Update:

- Approximately 400 letters were mailed to coastal communities and associations in the four Atlantic Provinces requesting contributions to ACCU. Response has been low.

*Discussion:*

Brenda Penak: Communities prefer personal communications, either by phone or in person.

David Boyce: The lack of response may be related to how the ACZISC is engaging communities and how communities are represented on the ACZISC.

John Legault: Discussions with community groups could become part of the ACZISC Workplan.

Brad Fay and Andy Cameron added that community groups are more comfortable when people go meet with them on-site.

David Boyce: Perhaps the ACZISC vision and mandate could be revisited and revised to encourage community involvement.

Geoff Lewis suggested that the SMART Communities project might be an avenue for improving communications with communities (<http://smartcommunities.ic.gc.ca>).

Barry Jones: The focus of the ACZISC has changed from being primarily technical in nature to include a social focus.

Mike Butler: There are both social and economic ramifications to ACZISC activities. Perhaps an area where the ACZISC could be involved with is developing training programs for community leaders. The development of such programs was identified by a working group at CZC 98 as a priority for the survival of coastal communities.

Andy Sherin suggested that the ACZISC consider strategies for linking with community groups.

David Boyce: The proposed strategies should be vetted with community groups.

John Burka: Perhaps the ACZISC website should be redesigned to allow direct contributions from interested individuals. Software is available for that purpose, e.g., Coldfusion. An example of an application is available at <http://www.whitelands.com>.

***ACTION 27.5: Executive Committee and Secretariat to discuss strategies for creating linkages and promoting communications between the ACZISC and community groups prior to next meeting.***

**DATABASE DIRECTORY**: The ACZISC Database Directory Working Group is chaired by Claudette LeBlanc. She distributed and reviewed copies of a draft Long-Term Strategy for the Atlantic Coastal Zone Database Directory (copy attached), developed by the Working Group. The Strategy includes proposed future developments such as online updating, a geographic search capability and the adoption of the international ISO standards currently being developed.

*Discussion:*

Andy Cameron: Are there financial implications to the ACZISC re the proposed developments to the Directory?

Claudette LeBlanc replied that there were none in that the developments will only take place if additional funding/support is made available to the ACZISC to implement them.

Mike Butler: The Secretariat has initiated discussion with NDI via Neil Anderson re the proposed developments to the Directory.

Brad Fay added that NRCan is also planning to adopt the ISO metadata standard for the CEONet directory, when it becomes available.

Dale Nicholson enquired if user statistics had been prepared for the Directory recently.

Claudette LeBlanc replied that statistics had not been generated for some time but that she would make an effort to do so prior to the next meeting.

***ACTION 27.6: ACZISC members to comment on the draft long-term strategy for the ACZISC Database Directory developed by Database Directory Working Group ASAP.***

***ACTION 27.7: Claudette LeBlanc to produce user statistics for the Database Directory prior to next meeting.***

**COASTAL MAPPING**: The Coastal Mapping Working Group is co-chaired by Curt Speight, NSGC and Eric Theriault, EC. Eric reported the following:

- 102 participants attended a coastal zone mapping workshop entitled *Natural Disasters in the Coastal Zone and their Mitigation: Rising Sea Level, Hurricanes, Storm Surges and Erosion*. The workshop was held on 7 April 1999 at Mount Allison University, Sackville, NB. Proceedings for the Workshop will be made available soon.
- The participants recommended that a pilot mapping project be undertaken in a high risk area to demonstrate the potential spatial impact of natural disasters in the coastal zone with the aid of 3D high resolution mapping and that digital terrain models be developed for the coastal zone. The pilot project would be funded by a number of agencies which have

- indicated interest. In-kind support would also be made available.
- The Coastal Mapping Working Group, the Data Exchange and Standards Working Group and the Secretariat have been discussing hosting a technical seminar/workshop, prior to undertaking a pilot project, to review the capabilities of technologies for coastal mapping.

Discussion:

Andy Sherin circulated samples of LIDAR mapping applications prepared for Story Head and Truro. He reported that a consortium including DFO, GSCA and NRCan had submitted a proposal to the Climate Change Fund for a project on the north shore of PEI.

Dick Pickrill: Research in the coastal zone is being revolutionized by developments in technologies for data acquisition, including LIDAR, remote sensing, etc. These technologies are expensive to utilize; therefore it is important that data be collected only once.

Réjean Castonguay stated that NB would soon be preparing to implement the NB Marine Policy currently under development. Background work into technologies for coastal zone mapping will be required. The proposed technical workshop is timely. He added that it was important for coastal mapping agencies to be aware of the various data sources which could be integrated into a coastal zone database.

Andy Sherin cautioned that data access and the cost of data be considered prior to initiating the pilot project.

John Burka stated that there is a need for information to allow the identification of optimum aquaculture sites. He enquired if the pilot project would be considering the correlation between bathymetry and bottom types/habitat for species such as finfish.

Mike Butler responded that the deliverables of the pilot project would be determined by the participants in the project.

John Burka added that the Aquaculture 2000 Conference would be held in Moncton, NB in May 2000. He suggested that ACZISC members may wish to make presentations at the Conference. The contact person is Andrew Boghen, Université de Moncton (email boghena@umoncton.ca).

***ACTION 27.8: ACZISC Secretariat and Coastal Mapping and Data Exchange and Standards working groups to organize a Workshop on Technologies for Coastal Mapping as a follow-up to the Natural Disasters Workshop held in April.***

**DATA EXCHANGE AND STANDARDS:** The Data Exchange and Standards Working Group is co-chaired by Réjean Castonguay, Service NB, and Andy Sherin, GSC Atlantic. Andy and Réjean reported the following:

- The Working Group had considered organizing a Workshop on Shoreline Standards as a follow-up to the Natural Disasters workshop held on 7 April. However, this has been superseded by the Coastal Mapping Technologies Workshop which will be organized jointly by the Coastal Mapping Working Group, the Data Exchange and Standards Working Group and the ACZISC Secretariat. The shoreline standards will be addressed at a later time.

5. ***PRESENTATION: MARINE GEOSPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE***

Randy Gillespie made a presentation on the proposed Marine Geospatial Data Infrastructure (MGDI); a copy of his overheads are attached. Randy stated the following:

- The GeoConnections Secretariat has been launched in Ottawa; it will receive \$60 million in federal funds over 5 years to develop the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI).
- A presentation to develop MGDI as a component of the CGDI will be made to the GeoConnections Secretariat by Randy tomorrow (13 May).



- The MGD I vision is "simple access by all stakeholders to geospatial data, information and applications to support management and sustainable development of Canada's coastal and marine areas".
- Because of its role and mandate, it is suggested that the ACZISC play a significant role in the development of MGD I.
- Decision re CGDI priorities and program envelopes will be made by GeoConnections in May/June.
- If MGD I is approved, a workplan and architecture will be developed in consultation with the user community. MGD I would be based on self-sustainability.

Randy requested support in principle from ACZISC members for the recommendations in his presentation. This was discussed and approved. Andy Sherin suggested that the ACZISC Data Exchange and Standards Working Group act as the liaison between the ACZISC and Randy re MGD I developments.

## 6. **PRESENTATION: BRAS D'OR LAKES AND FIRST NATIONS**

Kenneth Paul introduced Cheryl Berube, Eskasoni Fish and Wildlife Commission (EFWC), who made a presentation on the Bras d'Or Lakes and First Nations (copy attached):

- The Bras d'Or Lakes are a unique body of water surrounded by the land mass of Cape Breton Island. There are significant differences between the Lakes and the ocean: the salinity is lower, there is less flushing, the water is warmer in the summer, and the fish populations may differ.
- Five First Nations in Cape Breton are located on the Bras d'Or Lakes.
- A few studies have been carried out on the Lakes in the past; however, these did not deal with the Lakes ecosystem as a whole. TEK has not been documented.
- The Eskasoni Fish and Wildlife Commission was formed in 1991 in response to the Sparrow case which acclaimed the rights for First Nations to access the fisheries for traditional purposes.
- The EFWC is carrying out several scientific projects, including: an examination of the failure of aquaculture projects in the past; herring survey re populations, age and sex; salinity and temperature monitoring of the Lakes; and the impact of the Melford mine on traditional land use.
- An Environmental Committee, representing the five First Nation Chiefs on the Bras d'Or Lakes, meets regularly to deal with issues in common.
- For additional information on the EFWC, contact Charlie Dennis, Executive Director, at [pla\\_mu@fox.nstn.ca](mailto:pla_mu@fox.nstn.ca) or access the EFWC website at <http://www.tec.ednet.ns.ca/~wildlife/index.html>.

## 7. **PRESENTATION: MI'KMAQ AND MALISEET SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

Kenneth Paul introduced Cheryl Knockwood, Policy Analyst with the Atlantic Policy Congress (APC) of First Nation Chiefs, who made a presentation on the APC and its activities and the Mi'kmaq and Maliseet Sustainable Development Strategy. Copies of her overheads and other documentation are attached. Cheryl stated the following:

- The APC represents 34 First Nation Mi'kmaq and Maliseet Chiefs in Atlantic Canada: NB, NS, Nfld, PEI and Québec.
- The translation of the Mi'kmaq words for "sustainable development" is "keeping it the right way - that which gives us life".
- The main findings of the *Mi'kmaq and Maliseet Peoples Response Document to DIANDS*

*Sustainable Development Strategy* were reviewed. The focus of the report is on the need for capacity building in First Nations; the document is available from the APC website at <http://www.apcfn.org>.

- Cheryl also distributed copies of the *Mi'kmaq and Maliseet Response to the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples - Final Report*.

In response to questions, Cheryl added:

- The First Nations report is specific in content. The First Nations are concerned that these specifics will be lost in the generalities of the DIAND report. DIAND has not responded to the First Nations report.

## 8. **ROUNDTABLE REVIEW OF COASTAL ZONE ACTIVITIES**

**ENVIRONMENT CANADA:** Larry Hildebrand reported the following:

- A not-for-profit organization, the Sable Island Preservation Trust (SIPT) was established in December 1998 for the conservation and management of the fragile ecosystem of Sable Island. EC, DFO/CCG and SIPT are finalizing an agreement to have the Trust assume day-to-day management on the Island in cooperation with the federal agencies. The Trust will conduct atmospheric monitoring programs, assume responsibility for conservation, and deal with visitors to the Island. SIPT will become the 14<sup>th</sup> ACAP site in Atlantic Canada.
- The NS Federal Council, whose members are the most senior personnel of all federal agencies in the Province, has taken on the theme of *Sustainable Communities* as a priority area of focus. The Council's Economic Development Committee (FEDC) has been tasked to further define the meaning and the role of federal agencies in a cooperative partnership among communities and federal departments. On 17 May, the FEDC will meet to secure agreement on the appropriate approach to making sustainable communities a reality in NS. As the federal agencies pursue this cooperative relationship, the ACZISC will be discussed as a tangible initiative in which additional federal agencies can subscribe and become involved.

Eric Theriault reported the following:

- Two full time and two summer students are presently working on the Atlantic Region Sensitivity Mapping Program (ARSMP). A revised user interface has been completed and is operational. Staff are presently preparing datasets and maps for the upcoming CANUSLANT oil spill exercise. Also, ARSMP products are being delivered to several clients, such as the East Coast Response Corporation (ECRC).
- The Emergencies Section of EC is preparing for the upcoming CANUSLANT exercise scheduled for 2-4-June 1999 in Eastport, Maine. The purpose of the exercise is to prepare for marine environmental emergency incidents which may affect both sides of the Canada/US border in the future. This joint Canada/US Marine Spill Contingency Plan is exercised every 3 years.
- An In-situ Remote Sensors Workshop, sponsored by CCRS, is tentatively scheduled for 17-18 June 1999 in Ottawa. It will address in-situ, quantitative, remote sensors network applications. Additional details will soon be available.
- EC, in collaboration with TC, CCG, Radarsat International and IOSAT, has just completed a 2 month pilot project on using SAR imagery for targeting polluters at sea. The purpose of the project was to determine a mechanism for cooperation between the agencies and to evaluate the technology. Senior management are now evaluating the results to determine whether to continue with this approach.

- An MOU was signed between EC and the Canada Nova Scotia Petroleum Board (CNSOPB), the regulator, on 31 March 1999. The agreement details how the two organizations will work together on issues such as: assessments, spill response, guidelines on Waste Treatment and Chemical Selection, and Environmental Effects Monitoring Programs.
- A recent Call for Bids from CNSOPB for new exploration licenses resulted in bids on 19 parcels of land in the NS offshore area. These bids represent the expenditures which bidders must commit to in exploring the land parcels in the next 5 years. Subject to Ministerial veto, the Board will issue 19 exploration licenses. The bids totalled approximately \$600 million.

Andy Cameron stated that the licence for Block 1 had been withdrawn for the next 6 months.

**PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK:** Barry Jones stated the following:

- Approval for public consultation re the Marine Policy has been set aside by Cabinet until after the NB provincial election on 7 June. The completion date is still expected to be 1999 year end.
- The proposal to establish Musquash as a Marine Protected Area is now going through the Environmental Impact Assessment Review process.

Réjean Castonguay reported the following:

- The Province is in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the 10-year PLANET land titles project. When implemented, PLANET will provide guaranteed paperless land titles via the Internet. A demo could be provided at a future ACZISC meeting.
- The possibility of producing a coastal registry for applications such as aquaculture site is being discussed.
- The contract for producing orthophotos for the coastal mapping has been issued; the work will be completed by the end of 1999. \$1.5 million will be spent on creating the coastal mapping databases: Coastal topographic database; Coastal lands database; and Coastal soft-copy orthophotomap database.
- UNB has been commissioned to advise on data compression of large databases. A report has been submitted. The orthophoto database for the entire Province will be approximately 350 GB.
- The structuring of administrative boundaries will be the next priority for the Province.
- UNB has also been contracted to resolve ridging problems with the ETM. A report submitted by UNB will be considered by the Geographic Information and Mapping Advisory Committee (GIMAC).

*Discussion:*

Geoff Lewis asked what the legal profession thought of the paperless land registry.

Réjean replied that the implementation of PLANET would be progressive and modular. The legal profession is supportive because of title insurance.

Randy Gillespie enquired which coastline was being portrayed on the NB and NS coastal mapping series.

Réjean replied that it was the Ordinary High Water (OHW) line which was being mapped as a continuous line for the NB series. He added that LIDAR would be useful to map the intertidal zone.

Brad Fay stated that the NS coastal series was based on CHS charts and the NS 1:10 000 topographic database. The shoreline on the coastal series is derived from the latter.

**PARKS CANADA:** Neil Munro reported the following:

- The proposed Marine Conservation Area for the Bonavista-Funk area of Newfoundland has been withdrawn from further consideration as a result of local community opposition.
- The proposed legislation for National Marine Conservation Areas is proceeding. The public consultation phase has been completed and the legislation is being redrafted.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Science and the Management of Protected Areas Association will be held at the University of Waterloo from 14-19 May 2000. A Marine and Coastal Symposium lasting the full week will run within the Conference as a primary theme. A separate hard-back proceedings will be produced. More information is available from the website <http://landscape.acadiau.ca/sampaa/>.

**PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA:** Brad Fay reported the following:

- The 1:50 000 NS coastal zone mapping project is continuing; it is scheduled for completion by April 2000.
- Data access by DFO to NS data (NSGC), via subscription to an electronic server, has been implemented. Two data user training sessions are scheduled for Moncton and Halifax. Datasets include topography, property, and other electronic data.
- Other data and information exchange (electronic data) agreements continue to be implemented. Agreements are being discussed with provincial departments, municipalities, and communities. A proposed policy on exchange agreements with community groups is being drafted through the NS Department of Economic Development and the Regional Development Authorities.
- The pilot project report for Civic Addressing has been completed and will be presented to a public forum in early June; a province-wide implementation plan will then be determined.
- NS is prepared to participate in a project with other partners to test the LIDAR technology for coastal mapping.
- The NS Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture has acquired the ArcInfo GIS with a view to digitizing the aquaculture leases and licenses.
- Other ongoing activities:
  - Updating and maintaining the NSTDB topographic mapping database and automating access to electronic data via the WWW and servers.
  - Scheduling acquisition of required aerial photography for mapping and forest inventory. Photography will not be flown this spring due to early leaf cover and scheduling problems.
  - NSPRD (property mapping) developing a strategy for a reformed property registry system, and improving data accuracy and streamlining on-line access to data.
  - Rapid implementation of Internet distribution and e-commerce.
  - Routine distribution of the ACZISC Updates and other information to a personal email distribution list of contacts.

Andy Cameron reported the following:

- The maintenance of lighthouses is becoming an issue in NS. The Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture has met with representatives of the Coastal Communities Network re this matter. Further meetings will be organized.
- A Workshop on Tidal Barriers in the Inner Bay of Fundy, organized by the Conservation Council of NB, was held in April in Moncton, NB. An awareness session is being organized with the NS Department of Transportation re this issue.
- The NS Department of the Environment is reviewing its involvement in marine issues.
- Watershed advisory boards, including coordinators, are being planned for the entire Province.
- Following the June meetings of the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment, the

GoM Secretariat will relocate from the NS Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services.

**INDUSTRY CANADA:** Geoff Lewis reported the following:

- Industry Canada has been a strong supporter of coastal and oceans-related activities in Canada. IC was a member of the federal Interdepartmental Committee on Oceans.
- David Mulcaster, Executive Director Atlantic Region, IC has an informatics background. Bob Russell was the former Executive Director.

**FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA:** Tim Anderson reported on activities in the DFO Newfoundland Region:

- A one-day workshop re the National Program of Action (NPA) was held in St. John's. Workshop discussions and proceedings will form part of Nfld's formal input to the draft NPA. Note: Andy Cameron stated that he had extra copies of the draft NPA report which he could make available upon request.
- DFO is reviewing the implementation of pilot Marine Protected Areas (MPA) and a pilot international management site project.
- An 8-page information booklet entitled "Marine Protected Areas and Fishing Communities in Newfoundland and Labrador" is available from the Protected Areas Association of Newfoundland and Labrador. To obtain a copy, email paa@nf.sympatico.ca
- Tim has received 24 requests for the procedures manual entitled *Community-Based Coastal Resource Inventories in Newfoundland and Labrador*. The manual includes standards re the approach and symbology associated with coastal resource inventories. Additional copies are available from Tim.
- The ACZISC Updates are distributed routinely to an internal email distribution list.

John Legault reported the following:

- The nearshore resource mapping for the Southern Gulf is completed and a hard-copy will be prepared by the summer. An Internet application has been developed to allow users to build fisheries resource maps and print them either in colour or black and white. Downloading of data will not be possible. For the immediate future this will be a DFO application only but after testing it will be made available publicly on the WWW.
- DFO Maritimes Region has signed a corporate licence with the NS Geomatics Centre which allows all of the Region to access digital base maps and databases through an Internet service provided by the NSGC.
- A pilot study will be carried out to develop a model for sustainable community development in Caraquet Bay. The study will examine several aspects of the economic and social dependence of communities on their coastal and watershed resources. Once an enviro-socio-economic profile of the community has been documented, actions and models will be developed with the aim of integrated and sustainable resource management and use. This model can then be applied to the other Sustainable Development groups in NB.
- A contract to identify Critical Fisheries Habitat of the Northern and Eastern shores of NB has been issued. The study will enumerate the ecological importance of an area; the pressures that threaten its viability; the socio-economic contributions that the area supports; and the pros and cons of designating this site as a Marine Protected Area. Once this report is completed, internal (Departmental) and external workshops will be conducted to review and verify the information presented. Then recommendations will be made to either identify prospective MPA sites or perhaps areas that require an alternative integrated resource management strategy.
- A study was contracted to St. Francis Xavier University to identify the socio-economic importance of the aquatic resources in the marine and freshwater environment of the north

shore of NS from Pleasant Bay to Lismore. This is the first part of a multi-level study to document and evaluate the accuracy and dependability of traditional ecological knowledge. It is further intended to use this information in integrated management strategies and sustainable community development. The report is available from Dr. Tony Davis (adavis@stfx.ca).

- Since the December 1998 announcement re the Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management Pilot Project, staff have been developing an Overview and Use Audit of the area (looking at existing regulatory and management regimes which apply in the area and existing use of the area for fishing, oil and gas, defence, transport, tourism, research, etc). This Overview and Use audit will form the basis for a public discussion document slated for release this fall.
- In-services have been held with teachers to get feedback on the Oceans 11 course material for finalization of course material after this "pilot" year. Schools in the north (DFO's Central and Arctic Region) are taking steps to adapt the course for use in the north.
- In February 1999, a meeting of interested groups was held to explore the potential of having Basin Head Lagoon in PEI designated a Marine Protected Area. At this meeting, the Basin Head Lagoon Ecosystem Conservation Committee was formed consisting of nine representatives from the community and two ex-officio members representing DFO and the PEI government.
- Throughout the winter and spring, the DFO MPA Liaison worker in the Bay of Fundy area, Maria Inez-Buzeta, has organized a series of meetings to compile information on ecologically sensitive/significant sites in the Bay of Fundy. Progress is most advanced on a proposed MPA site at Musquash Marsh, which is strongly supported by local community groups including the fishing association.
- Meetings with local community groups and fishing organizations have been held over the winter/spring on the Atlantic coast and in Cape Breton. A steering committee has been formed for a proposed Bras d'Or Ecosystem Project. The committee is planning a fall workshop to focus on research priorities in the Lakes, and to identify the desired outputs of the proposed Ecosystem Project.
- DFO-BIO has begun the establishment of a structure to promote the data management, sharing and access among the Divisions. It is hoped that this work will have strong links with the ACZISC, GoM Information Exchange, and other initiatives in the region with a need for DFO data.
- A proposal to host an Atlantic Canadian Ecosystem Characterisation workshop the first week in November at BIO is being considered. The purpose would be to bring together the various expertise that could contribute to the development of a strategic ecosystem model for the Atlantic Coast from the Bay of Fundy to the waters off Cape Breton. Comments are welcomed.

Dale Nicholson reported the following:

- CHS is in a period of transition. Several changes have occurred in directorship and its core navigation mandate is being reviewed.
- A document outlining CHS activities was provided (copy attached). The document includes the CHS Atlantic proposed areas of work in 1999-2000; new charts and new editions of charts released by CHS Atlantic from January 1998 to May 1999; and approximate indication of priorities over the next two years.

**GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR:** Mike Warren reported the following:

- A proposal has been submitted to ACOA to carry out a Coastal Zone Economic Study for Nfld and Labrador. A decision on the proposal is expected over the next few weeks. The

- study will be similar to the study completed for NS and the one under way for NB.
- The Nfld and Labrador Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, in conjunction with Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Emerald Zone Development Corporation, completed a study on aquaculture conflict in the Nfld aquaculture industry. A copy of the study is available from <http://www.gov.nf.ca/fishaq/acera/acera.htm>. Government and industry are working to implement the recommendations of the study.
  - On 10 May 1999, the Government of Nfld and Labrador, the Labrador Inuit Association, and the Government of Canada announced an Agreement-in-Principle to settle the Labrador Inuit Land Claim. Highlights of the agreement are available from <http://www.gov.nf.ca/releases/1999/exec/0510n01.htm>.
  - A beta version of AquaGIS is now online but with restricted access.

**FIRST NATIONS:** Ken Paul reported the following:

- A Habitat Mapping project will take place in the River Denys Basin over next few months. The River Denys Basin is adjacent to the Malagawatch Reserve, which is shared among the 5 Mi'kmaw Bands in Cape Breton. The project involves three federal departments (PWGSC, DFO, and NRCan) as well as the Eskasoni Fish and Wildlife Commission. Using hydrographic sweep technology from Public Works and swath technology from the CHS, detailed bathymetric data and bottom quality information will be collected. The data will be used to enhance fisheries habitat knowledge as well as to provide a base map for environmental monitoring of the proposed gypsum mine by Georgia-Pacific in nearby Melford.
- A list of aboriginal students at Dalhousie University who are looking for employment was distributed.

**CANADIAN COAST GUARD:** Jim Calvesbert reported the following:

- The CCG is currently refining the Oceans Risk and Criteria Analysis (ORCA) information system. ORCA will integrate and present, in a form easily usable in a number of variations, all the information necessary to manipulate and analyze CCG operational and costing data. ORCA will be used for risk management to assist CCG senior management personnel involved in resource allocation. ORCA combines operational and statistical databases and the MapInfo GIS system.
- The administration of Sable Island is the responsibility of the CCG, under the Canada Shipping Act; however, most of the activity on the Island takes place under the auspices of EC. In an effort to ensure ongoing provision of services and encourage additional research on the Island, an Atlantic Canada Action Plan (ACAP) project has been initiated for the Island. The main partners are DFO, through the CCG, EC and the Sable Island Trust, a non-profit group which will provide services on the Island.
- In early June, the CCG will lead a joint Canada/US Atlantic Coast oil spill response training exercise (CANUSLANT 99). This exercise is usually conducted every two years with the US Coast Guard and other partners. This year CANUSLANT will be held off the coast of Eastport, Maine. EC, ecology groups and other government departments will participate. The exercise is a test of procedures and contingency plans and the learning experience will serve both countries well in the event of a major oil spill.
- The CCG is updating aquaculture site information in the context of the Navigable Waters Protection Act and other acts.

**COMMUNITY GROUPS:** Brenda Penak reported the following on behalf of the Bedeque Bay Environmental Management Association:

- BBEMA has an interest in the use of nitrates on the land since it can be responsible for health issues associated with groundwater contamination; it can also have a major

ecological impact, causing eutrophication of estuaries. BBEMA is cooperating with a number of partners to assemble and interpret historical information on land management (1960s, 70s, 80s and 90s) in a selected pilot area of the Bedeque Bay watershed. Information on nutrient and crop management on farms, through the collection of traditional knowledge, will be gathered. A focus group of several farmers will be interviewed and individual "kitchen interviews" will be conducted. This information will assist in understanding the linkages between these farming practices and nitrates in surface water and groundwater in order to make informed decisions in the future.

- BBEMA is also spearheading the development of an Agro-Environmental Demonstration Farm where sustainable agricultural practices and natural ecosystems co-exist and are interpreted. A 15-year stewardship agreement was recently signed between BBEMA and a landowner; the Demonstration Farm will now be developed as a type of restoration project where demonstration hedgerows, riparian zones, and innovative agricultural engineering combined with environmental monitoring will be conducted. When the site work is completed and educational information is developed, the Farm will be open for organized tours on arrangement. This will be directly tied to the Community Environmental Centre in which various partners including BBEMA, the community of Kinkora and Western School Board and others are involved.
- EC, CWS, UPEI, BBEMA, the PEI Department of Technology and Environment, the National Water Institute in Burlington, and UNB are cooperating on a study to further examine possible endocrine disrupting affects in an agricultural watershed. Field and laboratory work (utilizing fish and amphibians) will be conducted as part of the second year of a study.
- BBEMA and the Strategic Environmental Association (SEA) are working with 3 communities and a number of partners in conducting a year long "Community Conservation Project" aimed at reducing water consumption in homes and on farms, reducing energy consumption in homes and on farms and increasing biodiversity. Associated with this project, a Social Marketing Workshop with Dr. Doug McKenzie Mohr is planned for 14 May.
- BBEMA, in cooperation with community service clubs, will conduct its annual Beach Sweep on 5 June around the Bedeque Bay watershed.
- BBEMA is investigating the potential development of a Water Festival on PEI to heighten awareness of the importance of water.

David Boyce reported the following on behalf of the Strategic Environmental Association (SEA), Cardigan Bay:

- Bob Taylor, GSCA, has completed the draft report of a Sand Mining Study. The report, now out for review, details the effect of the mining of aggregate on coastal features and coastal erosion. The final report will be completed soon.
- A joint initiative between BBEMA and SEA, the Agriculture Bacteria Study focuses on the faecal coliform contributions from various land uses including livestock and wildlife sites. In 1999, the work will centre on remediation of these sites and ascertaining the net change in bacterial loading. Each property is being considered on an individual basis. Another initiative getting under way in the Vernon/Orwell watershed will look at cumulative effects and the changes resulting from remediation of several sources in an entire watershed (or a sub watershed).
- A joint biomonitoring project between SEA, BBEMA and MREAC (Miramichi River Environmental Assessment Committee) is under way to use stream macro invertebrates to assess water quality. Protocols were developed by Dr. Joseph Culp of the National Water Research Institute. BBEMA and MREAC will be utilizing students from local colleges while SEA will be using volunteers to conduct the sampling.
- A community group in eastern PEI is looking at designating the three rivers of Cardigan,



Brudenell, and Montague as a Canadian Heritage River under Heritage Canada. The group will be looking to preserve and protect areas like DeRoma at Brudenell Point which operated in the early 1700s as a supply camp for the Fortress of Louisbourg.

- The PEI Government has recently created the Community Development Bureau which focuses the community efforts of the Departments of the Environment, Education, Health and Development. The Bureau has development officers who support the efforts of community groups and community-based initiatives. The approach is similar to ACAP.

#### **NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA/GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA - ATLANTIC:**

Dave Pickrill reported the following:

- A Benthic Mapping working group has been set up at BIO to communicate and share ideas among scientists doing habitat mapping in Atlantic Canada. Thus far it includes representatives from DFO, NRCan/GSCA and EC. Discussions have been started on possible workshops to promote data sharing and benthic ecosystem studies. A series of meetings have been organized by Paul Boudreau, DFO, to look at mapping requirements.
- Approximately 90% of the GSCA databases are now available online.

Andy Sherin reported the following:

- GeoConnections is a national program to develop the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI). It has been supported in the federal Budget with an allocation of \$60 million over 5 years. GeoConnections will be directed by a Management Board which is cross-jurisdictional with broad representation (federal, provincial, municipal, industry and academia) and chaired by the ADM Earth Sciences, NRCan (Marc Denis Everell). GeoConnections will also have an Advisory Network with different network nodes addressing GeoConnections programs. The mandate of the Advisory Network is to advise and support the Management Board and to develop programs and proposals. For information, access <http://www.geoconnections.org>.
- The new ResSources GSC website was launched publicly on 1 May 1999 (<http://www.rgsc.nrcan.gc.ca>). ResSources GSC was developed in 1998 by the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) to better integrate its many Internet activities and contribute to a larger national initiative, the Canadian Geoscience Knowledge Network (CGKN). The goal of ResSources GSC is to provide Internet access to interoperable, multi-dimensional geoscience information in a client-focused manner through a network of linked sources. Two ResSources GSC Projects of particular note are: CMARGIN, designed to provide efficient and effective web access to the accumulated wealth of marine geoscience data, information and interpretive products; EarthNet, a web resource for teachers.
- Several Federal-Provincial Consultation meetings on Ocean Mining have been completed on both the east and west coasts. These meetings have had active participation by federal departments and the Provinces of BC, NS and Nfld. The Provinces of PEI, NB and Québec have been observers. It is anticipated that public consultations on Ocean Mining will be integrated with planned Oceans Act consultations.
- GSC Atlantic Field Programs for 1999 include: Dredge spoil investigations in collaboration with EC in Liverpool and Saint John (1-10 April and 1-10 Nov); Trawl Impact studies in collaboration with DFO (12 May-5 June); Geophysical survey of Bay d'Espoir and Placentia Bay (22 June-8 July); Geophysical survey of the N.E. Grand Banks (3-15 August 3); Heavy sampling and geophysical survey of North Coast of PEI (5-20 Oct); and Multibeam surveys in the Bay of Fundy (15-24 June), North Coast PEI (13-23 August), Western Cape Breton (23-30 August).
- In collaboration with several partners, several test areas were surveyed with an Airborne Laser Terrain Mapper (ALTM). GSC Atlantic has produced two preliminary products, one of Chezzetcook Inlet where the laser data was compared with RTK GPS measurements and

- one of Truro. A consortium is preparing a proposal to the Climate Change Action Fund to fund an ALTM survey on Prince Edward Island.
- GSC Atlantic is partnering with the Royal Military College collecting data on PCB contamination in sediments adjacent to a DEW line site in Saglek Bay, Labrador.
  - GSC Atlantic is continuing its collaboration with Clearwater and DFO on habitat studies on Browns Bank. Maps of surficial geology and benthic zonations will be distributed through NDI.
  - GSC Atlantic conducted beach surveys at Bouctouche and Cap-Pelé in collaboration with the NB Department of Natural Resources and Energy.
  - GSC Atlantic, in collaboration with the PEI Department of Fisheries and Environment, will hold discussions next week with the Souris Town Council concerning coastal erosion problems the town is experiencing.

**PROVINCE OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND:** Jim Ramsay reported the following:

- Riparian rights are becoming a big issue in PEI. Legislation is being proposed that would make it possible for people to access water from any point.
- A Forestry Code of Practice has been developed. This was done without consulting with the foresters, which has resulted in controversy.
- Agricultural buffer zones for streams are being proposed.
- A comprehensive land use study is being proposed for PEI. It would include in-depth information on farming operations and forestry. "Rebuilding" the coastline with the aid of GPS, in particular where erosion has occurred, is being considered.
- PEI will be the last province to implement 911. Civic addressing will cover the entire Province; 60,000 addresses will be geographically-referenced with GPS over a 3½ month period. The project, scheduled for completion by July 2000, is being carried out by Eastcan. PEI will be the first state in North America to geographically reference its properties for 911.

9. **UPDATES**

**COASTAL ECONOMIC STUDIES:** Barry Jones reported that two coastal economic studies are now being considered for NB: one for the entire coastal zone of the Province similar to the one produced for NS, and the other a socio-economic study for Caraquet Bay as a supporting tool to the NB Sustainable Development initiative. Both of these studies would be cost shared on a 50:50 basis with DFO.

**CANADA'S OCEANS ACT:** Tim Anderson reported that the issues and discussion document should be available by June. Consultations will take place after its release.

**SOUTHERN GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE COALITION ON SUSTAINABILITY:** Barry Jones reported that the founding meeting for the Coalition would take place in Summerside, PEI on 5-6 November 1999.

**GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION COALITION/COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION:** Eric Theriault distributed copies of the March 1999 Progress Report of the Global Programme of Action for the Gulf of Maine (GPAC).

**GULF OF MAINE COUNCIL ON THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT:** Andy Cameron reported the following:

- The GoM Council and Working Group meetings will take place on 8-11 June in Yarmouth, NS. In addition GoM will be hosting a display fair on 9-10 June in Yarmouth to enhance

environmental networking throughout the Gulf. On the afternoon of 10 June, the Council will host a public forum to discuss methods to improve linkages among the various groups working around the Gulf.

Barry Jones reported the following:

- The GoM will be celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in December. Activities will take place to mark this event including a re-evaluation of the Council's focus.
- An Aquaculture Committee of the GoM has been formed. A background study is currently under way to provide a status and issues perspective for the next Committee meeting.

**COASTAL ZONE CANADA ASSOCIATION AND CONFERENCES:** Barry Jones reported the following:

- The organizing for Coastal Zone Canada 2000, scheduled for September 2000 in Saint John, is on track. The Program Committee will be meeting at the end of May to finalize the Call for Papers and the Preliminary Announcement.
- The CZC 2000 website will be online at the end of June; the URL will be <http://www.gov.nb.ca/dfa/czc-zcc2000.htm>.
- As in Victoria, a Youth Forum is being organized to precede the main Coastal Zone Canada 2000 conference.

John Legault added that Maxine Westhead, with the DFO Oceans Act Coordination Office, is chairing the Coastal 2000 Youth Forum. The guiding principles of the Coastal 2000 Youth Forum are to lead by example and to minimize our Ecological Footprint.

Randy Gillespie reported that Sam Azizan, Memorial University, has been convening meetings of the Newfoundland Branch of the Coastal Zone Canada Association. Mike Warren added that efforts are being made to increase membership.

**PROVINCIAL ICZM POLICIES:** Mike Butler reported that a meeting on provincial ICZM policy had been held in Charlottetown yesterday (11 May). In addition to the ACZISC Secretariat, the meeting was attended by Andy Cameron, Réjean Castonguay, Brad Fay, David Gillis, Barry Jones and Mike Warren. The primary purpose of the meetings is information exchange.

## 10. ***ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS***

Andy Sherin reported that the Geological Survey of Canada has been endorsed as the lead agency to organize the 4<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on GIS and Computer Mapping for Coastal Zone Management by the sponsoring associations, the International Geographical Union's Commission on Coastal Systems and the International Cartographic Association's Working Group on Marine Cartography. This is the first time the CoastGIS conference will be held in North America.

The CoastGIS conferences focus on the latest methodological achievements specific to the dynamic nature of coastal environments, the structuring of information for the diverse community of practitioners in the coastal zone and policies that encourage data consistency as well as mechanisms for data exchange and sharing between organisations. Individuals who would like to help organize CoastGIS 2001 should contact Andy Sherin ([sherin@agc.bio.ns.ca](mailto:sherin@agc.bio.ns.ca)).

11. **OTHER BUSINESS**

No new business was discussed.

12. **NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

**ACZISC Meeting #28 is provisionally scheduled for Wednesday, 29 September 1999 in Fredericton, New Brunswick.**

ACZISC Meeting #27 adjourned at 16:00 hrs.