

MINUTES OF ACZISC MEETING #41

Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee

Date: Wednesday and Thursday, 28-29 January 2004

Location: Rodd Charlottetown Hotel
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

PARTICIPANTS (¹ indicates ACZISC member; ² indicates Advisory Committee member)

Name	Affiliation	Tel. No.
Tim Anderson ¹	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, NL Region, Oceans and Environment Branch	709-772-2852
Joe Arbour	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region, Oceans and Environment Branch (for Faith Scattolon ^{1,2})	902-426-3894
David Boyce	Southeast Environmental Association	902-838-3351
John Burka	APICS ¹ and Atlantic Veterinary College, UPEI	902-566-0810
Michael Butler ²	Director, ACZISC Secretariat	902-494-1977
Katherine Clough	Strategic Planning and Measurement, PEI Dept of Agriculture, Fisheries, Aquaculture and Forestry	902-368-5263
Norval Collins ¹	Private sector - Champlain Inc	902-425-4802
Réal Daigle ¹	Environment Canada, Meteorological Service of Canada	506-851-6743
Dolores Durant	Natural Resources Canada, GeoConnections Secretariat (for Cameron Wilson ¹)	613-992-4333
Randy Gillespie ¹	Canadian Centre for Marine Communications	709-579-4872
Leslie Grattan ¹	Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Department of Environment	709-729-3782
Larry Hildebrand ¹	Environment Canada, Sustainable Communities and Ecosystems Division	902-426-2131
Barry Judson	Southeast Environmental Association	902-838-3351
Claudette LeBlanc	Project Officer, ACZISC Secretariat	902-494-1977
John Legault ¹	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Gulf Region, Oceans	506-851-6221
Geoff Lewis ¹	Industry Canada, Energy and Marine Branch	902-426-9475
Neil MacNair	PEI Fisheries and Aquaculture	902-368-5615
Sgt Richard Mayne	National Defence, Trinity JOSIC	902-427-0550
Carol Murphy	PEI Department of Development and Technology	902-368-6320
Kyle Penney	National Defence, Formation Environment Office (for Carol Lee Giffin ¹)	902-427-0550
Jim Ramsay ¹	Government of Prince Edward Island, Provincial Treasury, Taxation and Property Records	902-368-4075
Brent Rowley ²	Private Sector - Champlain Inc.	902-420-1435
Andy Sherin ¹	Natural Resources Canada, Geological Survey of Canada	613-995-0525
Rob Thompson ¹	Parks Canada, Atlantic Service Centre	902-426-3445

<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Tel. No.</i>
LCdr Bob Thwaites	National Defence, Trinity JOSIC (for Cdr Paul Earnshaw ¹)	902-427-0550
Dave Younker ¹	Government of Prince Edward Island, Fisheries and Aquaculture	902-368-5252

1. **WELCOME and INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS**

Mike Butler, ACZISC Secretariat, called ACZISC Meeting #41 to order at 1300 hrs on Wednesday, 28 January. He welcomed members and observers and thanked Jim Ramsay for sponsoring the meeting on behalf of the Government of PEI. A roundtable introduction of all participants followed.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA, AND REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING #40**

The provisional Agenda for ACZISC Meeting #41 was reviewed and approved (attached).

The draft minutes of ACZISC Meeting #40 were reviewed and approved as distributed. The minutes will be posted on the ACZISC website at <http://www.dal.ca/aczisc/docs>.

3. **STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS**

The Action Items from Meeting #40 were reviewed and will be reported under the relevant agenda item. The Action Items were either carried out or are in progress, except for the following:

ACTION 40.3: Secretariat to have further discussions with Ken Paul regarding identifying a First Nation representative for the ACZISC

4. **UPCOMING ACZISC MEETINGS**

Members discussed the previously identified dates (19-20 May) for the upcoming ACZISC Meeting in St. John's. It was recommended that the date be changed to coincide with **Coastal Zone Canada 2004 (27-30 June in St. John's)** as a cost saving measure for members attending both the ACZISC meeting and the Conference. Friday, 25 June was identified as the most appropriate date for ACZISC Meeting #42.

The upcoming ACZISC meetings are scheduled for:

**ACZISC Meeting #42: Friday, 25 June 2004 (revised date),
St. John's, NL, in conjunction with Coastal Zone Canada 2004**

ACZISC Meeting #43: 15-16 September 2004, Fredericton, NB

ACZISC Meeting #44: 19-20 January 2005, Halifax, NS

ACZISC Meeting #45: 18-19 May 2005, Charlottetown, PEI

Mike Butler announced that, as per discussions at the last meeting, DND would be hosting ACZISC Meeting #44 (19-20 January 2005, Halifax). Bob Thwaites added that the meeting location had been provisionally identified: the Cambridge Military Library, Royal Artillery Park, Queen Street.

5. **ACZISC ADMINISTRATION / OPERATION**

ACZISC ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Mike Butler stated that the ACZISC Advisory Committee consists of a representative from each sector represented on the Committee: academia (Lois Whitehead); federal departments (Faith Scattolon); private sector (Brent Rowley); provincial governments (Justin Huston); and the Secretariat (Mike Butler).

Mike reported that a meeting of the Advisory Committee has not taken place recently due to conflicting schedules. However, he has spoken to members individually regarding ACZISC finances, the Workplan, projects and contracts, and the incorporation of the ACZISC Association.

ACZISC MEMBERSHIP: Mike Butler reported the following:

- David Younker, Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture, PEI Department of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Environment, has joined Jim Ramsay in representing the Government of PEI on the ACZISC.
- A First Nations representative has not been identified to date. As actioned at the last meeting, the Secretariat will have further discussions with Ken Paul, the former FN representative on the ACZISC, in regards to identifying a FN representative for the ACZISC.

ACTION 40.3: Secretariat to have further discussions with Ken Paul regarding the identification of a First Nation representative for the ACZISC

Leslie Grattan reported that the NL Department of Mines and Energy might want to name a representative to the ACZISC. The Department contributed \$5K to the ACZISC this fiscal year. She will be in contact with them in this regard.

Geoff Lewis enquired if ACOA had been approached re membership. Mike reported that membership by ACOA could be perceived as a potential conflict of interest, given their \$50K contribution to the ACZISC this year.

The Secretariat will continue to extend an invitation to ACZISC meetings to other potential members identified, including: the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA), the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), the Canada Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Board (CNOBP), Health Canada, and the Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Preparedness (OCIPEP), now part of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness under Anne McLellan. Tim Anderson stated that Dave Burley was Eric Theriault's counterpart at the CNOBP.

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

ACZISC COMMUNICATIONS: As a follow-up to discussions at previous ACZISC meetings, Claudette LeBlanc reported that she had compiled basic user statistics to indicate the level of readership for the minutes of ACZISC meetings. From January 2002 to January 2004, a total of 7,030 users accessed the minutes of the previous six meetings – an average of 1,172 per meeting. From October 2001 to October 2003, a total of 5,307 users accessed the minutes of the previous six meetings – an average of 885 per meeting.

Members commented that the user statistics for the minutes were impressive and that these would be of assistance in obtaining financial support for the ACZISC. It was suggested that the Secretariat continue to provide similar statistics at future ACZISC meetings, including basic website stats.

ACTION 41.1: Secretariat to prepare basic user statistics for the ACZISC minutes and the website and distribute these at ACZISC meetings

ACZISC 2003-2004 BUDGET AND FINANCIAL REPORTS: The ACZISC 2003-2004 budget, revenue summaries and receivables were distributed and reviewed (copies attached).

Mike Butler reported that the Secretariat had been successful in securing a one-time \$50K grant of bridging funds from the ACOA Business Development Program for this fiscal year. The application process was aided by several letters of support from members and associates. Andy Sherin and Leslie Grattan commented that the letters may assist members to secure funds for the ACZISC within their jurisdictions and requested that copies of the letters be made available to members if appropriate.

Geoff Lewis enquired how ACOA responds to the lack of financial support by the private sector for the ACZISC. Mike replied that private sector support (in writing or via telephone) was crucial in obtaining the \$50K from ACOA. Randy Gillespie commented that the ACZISC should approach 'big industry', e.g., the oil and gas industry, whose participation would result in financial contributions for the ACZISC. Their approach would be different to small businesses.

Sources of revenue other than membership dues include \$10K from the Ocean Management Research Network (OMRN) and \$10.5K for the Workshop on Large Marine Ecozone Boundaries and briefing document.

ACTION 41.2: Members to review the proposed ACZISC budget/financial statement 2004-2005 and provide comments to the Secretariat

ACTION 41.3: Secretariat to contact the providers of letters of support for the ACZISC funding application to ACOA to ask if copies of their letters can be made available to ACZISC members

PROPOSED ACZISC 2004-2005 BUDGET: The proposed ACZISC 2004-2005 budget was distributed and reviewed (copy attached). Mike reported that sources of revenue in the proposed budget include:

- Federal and provincial membership dues
- Contracts (~15% of the total proposed revenue):
 - \$10K secured for participation by the Secretariat in the National Secretariat for the Ocean Management Research Network (OMRN)
 - \$14K secured for participation by the Secretariat in the Capacity Study of the Earth and Environment Sector in Atlantic Canada for the Canadian Space Agency (CSA). Aerde Environmental Research (Dirk Werle) is the lead for the project. A 3-page PDF document outlining the Study was distributed. Mike requested that members provide the Secretariat with the names of contacts and documents relevant to the Study.
 - Grants from foundations.

Mike Butler reported that:

- The current federal LOA for ACZISC funding will conclude at the end of March. Faith Scattolon has indicated that progress had been made in relation to implementing a new three-year agreement (2004-2005 to 2006-2007). Joe Arbour volunteered to follow up on the status of the LOA. It was suggested by federal members that invoices for membership dues be sent ASAP to take advantage of remaining year-end funds when possible. Geoff Lewis recommended that the LOA not be signed sequentially as this slowed down the process significantly.
- He will be in contact with the provincial members to discuss provincial funding for the

ACZISC. Dave Younker commented that he would be discussing PEI's contribution with Jim Ramsay.

- The Secretariat will make efforts to identify additional sources of funding, including contracts and foundations whose mandates correspond with the ACZISC mandate. For example, an application has been submitted to the NB Environmental Trust Fund.
- As per an action item from the last meeting, several potential foundations were identified by George Borgal and Bob Rutherford in the "Green Source", a resource guide prepared by Environment Canada (http://www.ec.gc.ca/ecoaction/before_e.html). David Boyce commented that charitable status is a requirement for applying to most foundations.
- The budget contains \$4,730 of 'new' expenses related to the ACZISC Association.
- The budget will be presented to ACZISC Association Board of Directors for its consideration.

ACTION 41.4 *Members to provide the Secretariat with the names of contacts and documents relevant to the CSA Earth and Environment study currently underway in Atlantic Canada*

ACTION 41.5 *Joe Arbour, DFO to follow up with Faith Scattolon ASAP re the federal ACZISC LOA to:*

- *ensure that it has being activated*
- *to discuss ways of speeding up the signing process.*

Joe to subsequently communicate with the Secretariat on the status of the federal LOA

ACTION 41.6: *Secretariat to send membership invoices to federal ACZISC members ASAP for fiscal year 2004-2005*

ACTION 41.7: *Secretariat to contact provincial ACZISC members with regard to membership invoices for fiscal year 2004-2005*

ACTION 41.8: *Secretariat to follow up on possible alternate funding sources for the ACZISC, including foundations and contracts*

ACTION 41.9: *Secretariat to present the proposed 2004-2005 ACZISC Secretariat budget to the ACZISC Association Board of Directors by 31 March*

ACZISC 2003-2004 WORKPLAN: The 2003-2004 ACZISC Workplan was distributed and reviewed. A list of presentations at ACZISC meetings, as per item 1 of the Workplan, was also distributed. Leslie Grattan reported that a presentation on the Aerial Surveillance Program by Derek Scott, Provincial Airlines, at the January 2003 meeting in St. John's was missing from the list. It was suggested that the list of presentations could be another valuable tool for members to use when securing funds for the ACZISC.

ACTION 41.10: *Secretariat to revise/update the list of presentations at ACZISC Meetings and distribute to members at upcoming meetings*

ACZISC 2004-2005 WORKPLAN: Mike Butler suggested that the Secretariat prepare the 1st draft of the ACZISC 2004-2005 Workplan. It will be circulated to Working Group co-chairs and members for comment. The Workplan will be revised based on comments and reviewed at the upcoming ACZISC meeting in St. John's. Members agreed with this approach. Leslie Grattan recommended that the Workplan include a list of acronyms.

ACTION 41.11: *Secretariat to prepare the 1st draft of the 2004-2005 Workplan, including a list of acronyms, and distribute to Working Group co-chairs by 29 February for review and feedback to the Secretariat*

ACTION 41.12: *Secretariat to revise the draft 2004-2005 Workplan by 15 March based on feedback and distribute to members*

ACZISC ASSOCIATION: Mike Butler stated that the following:

- The ACZISC Association was registered under the NS Societies Act on 24 November 2003. A copy of the ACZISC Association profile provided by the NS Registry of Joint Stock Companies was distributed (copy attached).
- The following individuals have agreed to serve as Directors: Norval Collins, Brad Fay, Randy Gillespie, Brent Rowley and Lois Whitehead. Government personnel are not eligible to serve as Directors.
- A meeting of the Board was held on 13 January. The minutes of the meeting are attached. Brent Rowley was elected Chair and Lois Whitehead Vice-chair. The Directors requested that liability insurance be purchased for the Directors. This has been included in the ACZISC 2004-2005 budget (~\$1K).
- An MoU between the ACZISC Association and the Secretariat will be required for the provision of services by the Secretariat to the ACZISC. A draft will be prepared and circulated to ACZISC members for their consideration.
- The 1st AGM of the Association will be held in conjunction with ACZISC Meeting #42 in St. John's. All ACZISC members are eligible and encouraged to become members of the Association. A membership form was distributed (copy attached).

A schematic outlining the proposed relationship between the ACZISC, the ACZISC Association and the Secretariat was reviewed and discussed. It will be revised by the Secretariat based on comments and circulated again for review at the upcoming ACZISC meeting.

ACTION 41.13: *Secretariat and the Association Board of Directors to develop an MoU re the provision of services by the Secretariat to the ACZISC*

ACTION 41.14: *Secretariat to distribute the MoU to ACZISC members for their consideration and approval by 31 March*

ACTION 41.15: *Secretariat to organize the 1st AGM of the ACZISC Association in conjunction with ACZISC Meeting #42 scheduled for 25 June 2004 in St. John's*

ACTION 41.16 *Secretariat to distribute forms for membership in the ACZISC Association to ACZISC members*

6. PRESENTATION: INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT IN PEI

Dave Younker introduced Neil MacNair, Aquaculture Biologist, PEI Dept of Agriculture, Fisheries, Aquaculture and Forestry, who briefed participants on Aspects of Invasive Species Management in PEI. Copies of his overheads are attached.

Neil reported on the Island's aquaculture industry.

- The PEI mussel industry began in the 1980s. In 2003, the mussel industry profile was: 125 growers; 40,000 acres; 16,820 tonnes production (\$22.2 million); 8 processing plants; and

- 1,500 employed. The culture method is the long line system.
- PEI oyster production began in the early 70s. The industry profile is: ~750 fishers in two seasons; 477 leaseholders with 760 lease sites representing 6,481 acres; ~250 leaseholders active - 75 utilize off-bottom technology.
- The Island also has a clam aquaculture industry – both quahaugs and soft shell clams.

Neil reported on the invasive species that have the most impact on aquaculture: the Clubbed Tunicate (*Styela clava*), the Green Crab (*Carcinus maenas*) and the Oyster Thief (*Codium fragile*). He reviewed their origins and impact; the Government's management strategies, including eradication/control methods, monitoring and education; R&D into invasive species management; and future prospects.

Discussion:

Dave Younker reported that aquaculture activity in PEI was close to capacity. The Island is zoned – with some zones designated for aquaculture.

Geoff Lewis enquired if underwater noise had an impact on the invasive species discussed.

Neil replied that this was being investigated.

Mike Butler enquired if there was product development taking place for the invasive species.

Dave Younker reported that R&D was ongoing at the Food Technology Centre re developing markets and uses but a 'directed' fishery has not yet been developed for the invasive species. The green crab is very popular in France; however, there is a large supply worldwide.

Mike enquired how lobster responded to *Codium fragile*. Neil stated that in NS it was used as a habitat by lobster.

7. PRESENTATION: WORKING TOWARD A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Jim Ramsay introduced Dr. Katherine Clough, Director, Strategic Planning and Measurement, PEI Dept of Agriculture, Fisheries, Aquaculture and Forestry. Catherine made a presentation entitled "Keeping the Garden Green and the Waters Pristine – Working Toward a Sustainable Future for PEI". (Her presentation overheads are available on the ACZISC website at <http://www.dal.ca/aczisc/pei.ppt>.)

Katherine reported on the following:

- The background to agriculture on the Island.
- Trends in agriculture, including farms by type and cash receipts, potato farming statistics, export potato seed sales, pesticide sales, increasing levels of nitrates, fish kills.
- Results of farming trends: increased risks to water quality and soil quality; and impacts on the landscape and on all sectors of the economy.
- Solutions, including: responses to the 1997 Roundtable on Resource Land Use and Stewardship; developing a strategic direction; and taking comprehensive action through a Sustainable Resource Policy.
- The Sustainable Resource Policy will be based on cross compliance; programs and legislature; enhanced environmental farm plans; and resource land registration. It will address water, soil, air and forest quality; biodiversity; and land use planning.
- One of the Sustainable Resource programs is the 'PEI Select Farm' designation. To be designated 'select', a farm will have to meet requirements related to environmental, social and economic factors. There will be monetary rewards for achieving 'select farm' status.
- Progress will be measured through monitoring programs.
- An ecological footprint study of PEI by GPI Atlantic is underway. It will be made available after it is released.

Discussion:

John Legault enquired if there is an optimum size for a select farm. Katherine responded that

the 'select farm' designation was still at the concept stage. However, they would be small in general but larger if they produced potatoes.

John stated that insurance companies require the regular application of pesticides. Katherine stated that this was the case with income support programs also. Changes will be needed.

Larry Hildebrand commented that the Species-at-Risk Act would have implications to sustainability in PEI.

Geoff Lewis stated that Industry Canada was promoting 'environmental branding' with Canadian industries. Katherine responded that this was an excellent idea. The PEI Government would like industry to 'lead the charge'.

Joe Arbour added that great progress had been made in the 1980s on the study of sustainability of acreage for potato farming. Katherine commented that the current acreage was not sustainable. Over the last 15 years, other crops have been tried but the market has not been favourable for these crops.

Jim Ramsay commented that the economy of the Island was changing. Tourism is fast approaching the same return as potato production.

Randy Gillespie enquired if the policy extended to the water. Jim Ramsay responded that its limit was the high water mark, other than for water lots.

Mike Butler enquired how mandatory crop rotation was being monitored. Katherine responded that crop rotation was being monitored in the field by personnel using GPS for positioning.

Rob Thompson noted that land use planning had not been noted in 'measuring progress' but was included in 'what the policy will accomplish'. Katherine commented that the lack of land use planning was seen as a barrier.

8. COINATLANTIC

Randy Gillespie, Canadian Centre for Marine Communications (CCMC) and the Canadian GeoProject Centre (CGPC) briefed participants on the proposal to implement a Coastal and Ocean Information Network - Atlantic (COINAtlantic). He distributed copies of his overheads and a 3-page briefing document (attached). Randy stated the following:

- COINAtlantic would be a cooperative effort by all players interested in the acquisition and use of data and information about Atlantic Canada's coastal and ocean resources.
- COINAtlantic would invite all players in Atlantic Canada to:
 - Share the data and information they already have;
 - Coordinate planning for future data acquisition and processing activities;
 - Participate in a cooperative effort to establish the technology and policy framework necessary to enable simple third party access to data and information, involving innovative teaming of public and private sector services and use of all available technology and assets; and
 - Participate in a program to provide operational and financial sustainability.
- COINAtlantic provides an opportunity to frame the ACZISC's role to a broader cross-section of membership.

Discussion:

John Burka enquired on whose behalf the proposal was being made. Randy replied that the proposal was submitted on behalf of the CCMC, an ACZISC member, and the CGPC, both non-profit agencies.

Geoff Lewis enquired why the initiative was not planned from a national perspective. Randy replied that it would ultimately coalesce with similar initiatives in other parts of Canada, e.g., the COINPacific proposal. GeoConnections provides incentives for initiatives to adopt national standards.

Dolores Durant commented that COINPacific has a very complex structure with many levels of bureaucracy. Geoff Lewis added that the COINPacific model was very confusing.

Norval Collins stated that he had fundamental problems with two aspects of the proposal: who would submit the proposal and when?

Mike Butler commented that the two proposals – COINAtlantic and the ACGP – were not mutually exclusive. Norval added that it was primarily a question of timing. The submission of a COINAtlantic proposal to ACOA prior to the establishment of the Atlantic Canada Geomatics Partnership (ACGP) would jeopardize this recent initiative.

Geoff Lewis enquired where the seed money would come from for COINAtlantic. Randy stated the Secretariat would have to be funded by sponsors.

Andy Sherin and Leslie Grattan suggested that a Task Group review the COINAtlantic proposal and make recommendations to the ACZISC on whether/how to move forward with the COINAtlantic proposal. Mike Butler asked for volunteers. Andy Sherin and Leslie Grattan agreed to head the Task Group. Other volunteers include Joe Arbour, David Boyce, Norval Collins, Randy Gillespie, John Legault, Geoff Lewis and the Secretariat.

ACTION 41.17: Andy Sherin and Leslie Grattan to head the Task Group to review the COINAtlantic proposal and to make recommendations to the Committee prior to the next meeting on whether/how to move forward with the proposal

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

FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA: Dick MacDougall, Canadian Hydrographic Service - Atlantic, provided the following report to the Secretariat for distribution:

- The final report of the Departmental Assessment and Alignment Project (DAAP) is due soon. It will identify areas for cost saving and a timeframe over which this will be achieved. The savings will be reallocated to higher priority areas within DFO. In CHS the focus will be on charting high priority areas and seeking private sector help in better meeting the needs of boaters in lower priority areas. CHS hopes to commit a small portion of its resources to demonstrate how seabed mapping can / should form a basis for integrated ocean management decisions.
- CHS Atlantic completed surveys in Notre Dame Bay and a corridor survey in northern Labrador in 2003 as well as scallop Area 29 off the southwest coast of NS using the CCGS vessels FG Creed and Matthew.
- CHS and the Surveys and Mapping Division of the NL Department of Government Services and Lands have used funding under the National Search and Rescue Secretariat's New Initiative's Fund (NIF) to obtain aerial photography to improve shoreline mapping along the Northern Labrador Coast. This project will continue in 2004.
- UNCLOS was ratified in November. Securing funding to make the claim is to be a government priority. There is some confusion in Ottawa between the mapping required for UNCLOS and SeaMap. It has been explained that the seabed mapping needed for UNCLOS is bathymetry only (not sediment and habitat) in a rather narrow strip along the outer boundary of the continental shelf in Atlantic Canada plus seismic work to determine sediment thickness. SeaMap entails the bathymetry, sediment and habitat mapping of the remainder of the continental shelf. Mapping to support the Atlantic UNCLOS claim is relatively straightforward but the survey work in the Arctic will be a challenge.
- The SeaMap proponents are working to keep the concept alive and a part of Canada's Ocean Strategy.
- The concept of a Marine Cadastre was further developed at an Offshore Workshop sponsored by the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors in Calgary in October. At present, the lack of structure to deal with property and other rights in the offshore and the number of different jurisdictions that govern activities makes governance very difficult. A Marine Cadastre would record all these rights and could be a basis for at least identifying where there are overlapping or conflicting rights. A big question is who would be

- responsible for such a Marine Cadastre given the number of jurisdictions involved and issues related to unresolved boundaries and rights.
- At a DFO Science workshop held in St. John's in November, Dr. Arthur Collin, President of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society, spoke on the need for Canada to do what is required to identify the limits of its territory and what lies within. This will enable Canada to manage the country's coastal and offshore resources better than anyone else in the world and would give Canada a competitive edge in this sector globally.

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

- Gulf of St Lawrence Integrated Management: GOSLIM undertook two major projects this year: the preparation of a map showing ecologically and biologically sensitive areas and an Ecosystem Overview Report providing information on the physical, biological and human ecosystem components of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The report will also include an ecological assessment of the Gulf with respect to specific Gulf-wide issues.
- Gulf Region Oceans staff held three public meetings to present the Department's concept of Integrated Management related to the Oceans Act: 3 March 2003 in Antigonish, NS; 3 October 2003 in Tracadie, NB; and 4 January 2004 in Charlottetown, PEI. The three meetings were well received by the public although there are many questions with respect to funding, the planning process, next steps and engagement of stakeholders. Future meetings are planned to continue the process of engagement and consensus building.
- Staff from both the DFO Gulf and Maritime Regions are engaged in discussions with the Province of NB to harmonize concepts of Integrated Management.
- The Gulf Region is entering into a project with the Province of NB to streamline the process of licensing aquaculture sites. In an attempt to be proactive with respect to the assessment of aquaculture sites, the project will prepare a plan assessing the existing and potential uses for an entire bay, and identifying zones for development and exclusion for protected areas. All regulators (federal and provincial) will identify their areas of concern to be incorporated into the plan. This will be followed by a consultation process with stakeholders. The preparation of such a plan will streamline the approval or rejection of an application.

Geoff Lewis enquired if there were wide-area management plans being developed by DFO, other than GOSLIM and the Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management (ESSIM) initiative. Tim Anderson replied that there was one for Placentia Bay in Newfoundland, one for the central coast of BC and one for the Beaufort Sea. Joe Arbour added that planning for ESSIM was more advanced than for the other areas.

Joe Arbour, DFO Maritimes Region, reported the following:

- Geoff Reagan, the MP for Halifax West, has been named Minister of Fisheries and Oceans. Shawn Murphy, MP for Hillsborough, PEI, has been named as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans with special emphasis on the Oceans Action Plan.
- Regional Advisory Process: The Benthic Habitat RAP workshop on "Maintenance of the Diversity of Ecosystem Types: Benthic Classification and Usage Guidelines for the Scotia-Fundy Area of the Maritimes Region" was held on 6-8 January 2004 at BIO. The benthic habitat classification model proposed by Vladimir Kostylev, Geological Survey of Canada-Atlantic, was accepted in principle. The next steps will include determining how the model can be incorporated into ocean management.
- Ecoregion Delineation: A Workshop organized by the ACZISC Secretariat last September at BIO reviewed the criteria and rationale used by DFO, EC, NRCan and Parks Canada to define and delineate large marine ecoregions and identified differences and commonalities in their methods. The Workshop report, including recommendations, has been provided to the DFO Ecoregion Delineation Criteria Discussion Group which was established earlier in

2003 to identify the ecological criteria for identifying ecoregions. The Discussion Group is planning a workshop in March. Membership in the Group will be broadened beyond DFO as per the recommendations in the ACZISC Workshop report.

- Gully MPA Area of Interest: Part I of the Canada Gazette for the Gully MPA area of interest ended on 6 January. Part I gave interested groups and individuals a final opportunity to review and comment on the proposed regulations. Some 'fine tuning' will be done as a result of comments received. Following this, DFO will move to the final phase of the regulatory process, resulting in the enactment of the Regulations and publication in the Canada Gazette Part II. It is hoped that MPA designation for the Gully will be announced this spring.
- A new initiative entitled 'Aboriginal Aquatic Resources and Ocean Management' is focused on the Bras d'Or Lakes. First Nations may take the lead for the project; DFO and other partners will be involved.
- Coordination: Personnel from DFO Maritimes and DFO Gulf are meeting with staff from the NB Government (Russell Henry and Kim Hughes) primarily to discuss a coordinated approach for Integrated Management in the Province. In early December DFO Maritimes personnel met with the Atlantic Canada members of the Canadian Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers (CCFAM).

The status of other MPA Areas of Interest (AOI) was discussed. It was reported that the initial draft regulations and an impact analysis statement have been prepared for the Musquash, NB site. The MPA process for Basin Head, PEI is also ongoing. Tim Anderson reported on AIO sites in NL: MPA regulations are being prepared for Gilbert Bay and Eastport and recommendations to the Minister are being prepared for Leading Tickle.

Tim Anderson, Oceans and Environment Branch, DFO NL, reported the following:

Placentia Bay:

- Integrated Management Planning for the highly environmentally-sensitive area continues.
- Issues include the large amount of crude oil transported in and out of the Bay (as noted by the Brander/Smith Panel and the Terra Nova Offshore Oil Environmental Assessment Panel) and development of the refinery facility for ore from Voiseys Bay.
- Placentia Bay supports an active fishery and emerging Atlantic cod and blue mussel aquaculture operations. Environmentally sensitive areas in the Bay include the Cape St. Mary's Seabird Ecological Reserve.
- Both federal and provincial governments, who have formed a working group and initiated consultations with key stakeholders in the area, recognize the sensitivity of the area.
- A comprehensive scoping exercise involving nearly one hundred agencies, groups and individuals has recently taken place in the area. Results and recommendations are due in February 2004.
- A recently published poster on ICM in Placentia Bay was circulated. Participants wanting copies should contact Tim.
- A session on Placentia Bay is planned during Coastal Zone Canada 2004. This will provide an opportunity for an announcement on future plans for the area.

ACTION 41.18: Participants wanting to obtain a copy of the poster on ICM in Placentia Bay to email Tim Anderson at andersont@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR: Leslie Grattan, Environment, reported the following:

- The vulnerability of Placentia Bay was identified before the Whiffen Head Trans-shipment Terminal was built in Placentia Bay. The Terminal is responsible for trans-shipping crude oil from the Hibernia and Terra Nova offshore fields.
- The NL Government has focused attention on improving response to oil spills.

- A small delegation of NL Government and industry representatives travelled to Galecia, Spain in January 2003 to meet with Spanish government and response personnel re their experience with the Prestige incident and oil spill. The trip report is available at http://www.gov.nl.ca/env/Env/PollPrev/pdf/SpainReport_2003.pdf
- An international Oil Spill Conference was held last November in St. John's. Participants reviewed tactics used in cleaning up past oil spills and presented ideas for dealing with future spills.
- Departmental reorganization has occurred following the election of a new government in NL. The former departments of Mines and Energy and Forest Resources and Agrifoods have been combined into the Department of Natural Resources.
- The NL Government is planning to develop an Environmental Management Strategy.
- The NL Government will be discussing the problem of oil spill material/debris in coastal waters with David Anderson, the federal Minister of Environment.

CANADIAN CENTRE FOR MARINE COMMUNICATIONS: Randy Gillespie reported the following:

Canadian Centre for Marine Communications

- CCMC has just entered into an agreement with InnovaQuest of St. John's to pursue the business opportunity related to offshore oil and gas data management. The oil and gas companies, together with the two offshore boards on the east coast, have been discussing a 'shared data repository' initiative for 3 or more years.
- CCMC is promoting an 'information seaway' pilot project for Placentia Bay. The project is intended to demonstrate how CGDI architecture and technologies can be used to implement a functioning information infrastructure to support integrated coastal and ocean management. The pilot project relates to an IM initiative headed by DFO and to similar initiatives in Québec (St. Lawrence Showcase) and BC (COINPacific).
- The proceedings for Ocean Innovation 2003 are now available online. Those who attended the conference will have received a user name and password to access the proceedings. Others can gain access for \$50. Contact Clayton Burry at cburry@ccmc.nf.ca.
- Ocean Innovation 2004 is scheduled for Victoria, BC on 25-27 October. Contact Clayton Burry (cburry@ccmc.nf.ca) for details. Ocean Innovation 2005 is tentatively scheduled for the fall of 2005 in Rimouski, Québec.

Canadian GeoProject Centre: The CGPC is actively marketing Canadian 'spatial data infrastructure' expertise in developing countries. Randy Gillespie has been seconded to the CGPC as Deputy Director and is focusing specifically on marine opportunities. Current efforts are focused on the Black Sea region, the Caribbean, Chile, the Straits of Malacca and the Western Indian Ocean

Canadian Institute of Geomatics: The CIG national conference is scheduled for on 20-22 June 2004 at the Westin Hotel in Ottawa. For details, access <https://www.cig-acsg.ca/cig2004/english/home.htm>.

Discussion:

Randy Gillespie enquired if there had been any activity following the ratification of UNCLOS. Andy Sherin and others responded that there had been no activity. David Monahan, Director of Ocean Mapping, DFO, is frustrated with the lack of progress.

Leslie Grattan reported that there would be a session on UNCLOS at CZC 2004.

Joe Arbour added the recent change in government had resulted in a transition phase leading to high- level discussions. The upcoming Speech from the Throne will set directions.

Geoff Lewis added that the website of Shawn Murphy, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans with special emphasis on the Oceans Action Plan, may offer some indication (<http://www.shawnmurphyp.ca/sub.cfm?source=313>).

Andy Sherin added that Dr. Peter Harrison, Senior Research Fellow, National Research Council of Canada, had reviewed future trends and research needs in ocean and coastal management at the OMRN Conference in Ottawa last November.

NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA: Dolores Durant reported that GeoConnections was entering the last year of the program. A final round of proposals for the 'Communities of Practice' and 'Public Agency Connectivity' Announcements of Opportunities were due on 15 January. Many high quality proposals were received. Funding decisions will be based on many variables including the new federal Government's priorities and strategically enhancing the Department's positioning for GeoConnections II.

GeoConnections' Framework Node

- In late June, representatives from the USGS Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) and GeoConnections met in Ottawa to evaluate proposals from the fourth Canada/US joint framework request for proposals. These framework projects are designed to stimulate cross-border cooperation through the development and use of a common geospatial data framework that involves multiple organizations integrating and sharing framework data among different users.
- This year's selected project is for the Gulf of Maine and involves multiple Canadian and US government agencies and private companies. The project will result in an integrated framework established for the sea floor of the Gulf of Maine to be used by those interested in commercial and recreational fishing, marine sanctuaries and protected areas, fibre-optic and electric cable laying, ecotourism, mining, navigation and aquaculture.
- The project will further the scientific and technical understanding of the complexities, challenges and efforts required to develop and utilize framework data to address a common issue over one continuous piece of geography that is shared by Canada and the US.

GeoConnections' Access Node

- The GeoConnections Discovery Portal carried out an online usability survey last November and December. Approximately 500 people filled in the survey. The results indicated that there were some content management issues. Work is now being done to the Portal to make it more user-friendly and to allow people to find that which they are looking for more easily.
- The new version of the CGDI technical manual is now available upon request in English. It will be posted on the GeoConnections website when the French translation has been completed.
- The new online training program is nearly complete and should be available in the spring.

Discussion:

Andy Sherin commented that the Gulf of Maine project was in large part an outcome of the collaborative Canada/US East Coast of North America Strategic Assessment Project (ECNASAP), a program that codified and documented a process for strategic environmental assessment in coastal and ocean waters.

Geoff Lewis enquired if the Gulf of Maine project was further ahead in implementation than the west coast Neptune project. Andy replied that it was not. He added that the Gulf of Maine project was satellite-based while Neptune will be a cable-linked seafloor observatory.

Andy Sherin, Geological Survey of Canada (GSC), reported the following:

- The 'Geoscience for Ocean Management Program' of NRCan's Earth Science Sector (ESS) is holding a workshop at BIO on 4-6 February 2004. For information, access http://gom.nrcan.gc.ca/gomnews_e.php.
- The ESS 'Groundwater Program' is collaborating with the Province of NS, the College of Geographic Sciences (CoGS), the Clean Annapolis River Project (CARP) and others to

study the aquifers in the Annapolis Valley. Contact: Alfonso Rivera (alphonso.rivera@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca).

- **New Brunswick Sea Level Rise Project:** The Climate Change Action Fund (CCAF) project is proceeding well. EC has processed the tidal data for storm surges. The Geodetic Survey of ESS has preliminary results from its vertical motion study that suggests the Moncton and Bathurst regions are sinking by 30-40 mm per decade relative to Algonquin Park, the area for which the Geodetic Survey has the best information about absolute vertical crustal motion. Additional GPS stations are being established to get better measurements of vertical motion. The results from this work won't be available for several years since a long time series of data is necessary to do these calculations.
- GSC will try once again to conduct a multibeam survey off NB. The CCGS Matthew has been booked for up to 14 days in April or May for this purpose.
- The NL Department of Natural Resources has asked for advice from the GSC on proposed amendments to the municipal planning strategy at Conception Bay South.
- The Canadian Climate Impacts and Adaptation Research Network (C-CIARN) Coastal node will soon publish two workshop reports: the report from the spring 2003 workshop and the report from the workshop at the November 2003 OMRN Conference. One of the two C-CIARN sessions at CZC 2004 will be interactive and address a specific scenario for climate change adaptation.
- GSC has been working with DFO on the definition of a habitat template framework. This was recently reviewed and adopted by the participants at a RAP meeting. Three Working Groups have been established to refine the work: one to correct problems with some of the layers of information used in the framework, the second to document the theory behind it and the third to work on how it would be used operationally in habitat management. Vladimir Kostylev has been invited to present the concept to the DFO Pacific Region.
- Next year the 'Abandoned NS Gold Mines' component of the ESS 'Metals in the Environment Program' will link the terrestrial and marine components of its work on mine tailings. It will focus on the Seal Harbour/Isaacs Harbour area of the eastern shore of NS where mine tailings are both on land and in the marine environment. Contact: Michael Parsons (michael.parsons@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca).
- Photos and data on the impact of Hurricane Juan to the Atlantic Coast of NS will be posted on CoastWeb (http://www.gsc.nrcan.gc.ca/coastweb/storm_impact/juan/index_e.php).
- The next CoastGIS international symposium on GIS for ICM will be held in Aberdeen, Scotland in July of 2005.

GOVERNMENT OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND: Jim Ramsay reported the following:

- Presentations made at ACZISC meetings are important information tools for ACZISC members and associates. Jim suggested that these be made available on the ACZISC website if appropriate.
- The recent addition of David Younker, Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture, as the 2nd member representing the PEI Government on the ACZISC is welcome and appreciated.
- One of the responsibilities of the PEI Treasury is 'corporate geomatics', which includes a mandate to integrate and facilitate access to data.

ACTION 41.19: Secretariat to make copies of the presentations made at ACZISC meetings available on the ACZISC website, when agreed upon by the presenters

Carol Murphy, PEI Development and Technology, reported that an Intergovernmental GIS Seminar was scheduled for 11 March in Charlottetown. It is an information session for government personnel – federal, provincial and municipal. The event is sponsored by the PEI GIS Steering Committee.

INDUSTRY CANADA: Geoff Lewis, Energy and Marine Branch, reported the following:

- The Terms of Reference have been developed for an RFP to update the 1998 study entitled "Estimating the Economic Value of Coastal and Ocean Resources: The Case of Nova Scotia". The maximum amount for the study is \$65K. The study will include an overview on environmental economics.
- The Oceans Innovation Conference was held on 20-21 October in St. John's. The event, sponsored by the CCMC, focused on innovation in the ocean environment, including coverage of issues relating to technology, research, governance and market demand, with an emphasis on the need for partnerships. Geoff circulated a copy of the keynote address on future trends and research needs in ocean and coastal management by Dr. Peter Harrison, Senior Research Fellow, National Research Council of Canada.
- Oceanology International is scheduled for 16-19 March 2004 in London, UK. Thirty Canadian companies will be participating, twelve of which are from Atlantic Canada. Two IC representatives will be present.
- The 2004 Alliance for Marine Remote Sensing Conference, Operational Oceanography and Remote Sensing, will be held in conjunction with Oceanology International. The AMRS event will address the subject of operational oceanography from a remote sensing perspective.
- A conference of hydrogen fuel cells and renewable energy will take place on 10 February in Charlottetown.
- Industry Canada has also undergone reorganization. Lucienne Robillard is the new Minister. She is also responsible for the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the Regions of Quebec.

PARKS CANADA: Rob Thompson reported the following:

- Parks Canada has also been affected by the recent reorganization of the federal government. Alan Latourelle, the Agency's CEO, now reports to the Minister of Environment Canada. In addition to Parks Canada and Environment Canada, Minister Anderson is responsible for the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Canada Lands Corporation Limited, and Queen's Quay. Parks Canada had been with EC through the 1980s.
- Serge Marcil, MP for Beauharnois-Salaberry, has been named Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Environment with special emphasis on Parks.

National Marine Conservation Areas:

- NMCAs are established under the Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act. Their establishment is guided by the national system plan, Sea to Sea to Sea (available on Parks Canada's website at <http://www.parksCanada.gc.ca>). The goal is to represent each of Canada's 29 marine regions.
- Currently, there are two operating sites within the NMCA program: Fathom Five National Marine Park in Georgian Bay, ON, and Saguenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park in QC. The latter is managed cooperatively with the Province of Québec.
- New NMCAs are proposed for Lake Superior, ON, and Gwaii Haanas, BC and the Southern Strait of Georgia, also in BC.
- There is interest in initiating the process to designate the Magdalen Islands as an NMCA.

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

- Geoff Howell, Manager, Ecosystem Science and Information and more recently Acting Director, Integrated Environmental Applications Branch (IEAB), passed away last month. Geoff worked with EC since 1980 and was a strong supporter of the ACZISC goals of sharing information.
- The Canadian Biodiversity Information Facility (CBIF) provides access to primary data on biological species of interest, including: Species Access Canada; the Integrated

- Taxonomic Information System; and the Biological Observations, Specimens and Collections Gateway. It is a member of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF). (For information on the CBIF and the GBIF, access <http://www.cbif.gc.ca>.)
- The Atlantic Coastal Action Program (ACAP) will be expanding into Labrador. ACAP is currently comprised of 14 community-based organizations throughout NS, NB, PEI and insular Newfoundland. An EC community engagement specialist is currently conducting interviews with representatives of over 48 organizations to determine how to proceed and to identify the 'where' and 'with whom' an ACAP site could be established. A workshop is scheduled for April to further discuss progress to date and future developments.
- The 2005 Conference of the Canadian Coastal Science and Engineering Association (CCSEA) will take place in Halifax, date to be determined.

Larry reported the following on behalf of Bill Horne, Environmental Emergencies Section:

- An EC DC-3 remote sensing aircraft with laser fluorosensor will be stationed in the Atlantic Region from 24 February to 15 March 2004 in order to ground proof some of the satellite imagery of oil sightings (Radarsat) and to carry out offshore surveillance of natural oil seeps and wreck sites.
- EC Atlantic Region undertook an internal 'Review of Emergency Response Capabilities Following Hurricane Juan'. This review is likely to result in improvements to regional capacity over the short and longer term.
- Additional CBRN air and water sampling and monitoring equipment has been provided to regional EC offices to supplement its capacity. EC HQ is also developing decontamination procedures and protocols for contaminated facilities and is acquiring decontamination gear.
- Improvements are being made to EC's plume and trajectory modeling capacity in support of the regions' needs at the Canadian Meteorological Centre in Montreal and at the Environmental Technology Centre in Ottawa.
- EC staff will be visiting Come-by-Chance (NL), and Halifax and Port Hawkesbury (NS) this winter as part of 'Operation Clean Feather', a program to increase awareness of environmental legislation and potential impacts of ship-based pollution.

Training Requirements: The 30th anniversary meeting of the Regional Environmental Emergencies Team (REET) was held on 26-27 November in Halifax. The presentations are available at <http://www.ns.ec.gc.ca/emergencies/reet/index.html>

Exercises: EC, in conjunction with the CCG, carried out training for Parks Canada staff at Cape Breton Highlands National Park on 15 October 2003.

Communication and Information Sharing:

- EC emergencies staff are participating with CNSOPB in an environmental audit of the rig EIRIC RAUDE during January 2004.
- The Regional Environmental Emergencies Coordinator participated in 5 international R&D committee meetings in Ottawa from 2-4 December 2003. These meetings were designed to discuss present and future research priorities in the area of oil and chemical spill response and detection. Copies of meeting notes are available upon request from Roger Percy (roger.percy@ec.gc.ca).
- EC has recently submitted a proposal to GeoConnections for funding to develop a national Environmental Emergency Management System (GIS mapping). The System would provide access to environmental data to a broad range of emergency responders.

Réal Daigle, Meteorological Service of Canada, reported the following:

NB Sea Level Rise Project:

- Work is on schedule for all components of the NB Sea Level Rise Project, except for the last phase of LIDAR data collection. Data collection for the Kouchibouguac and

Shemogue/Cape Jourmain sections has been delayed until the spring of 2004 due to equipment problems experienced by Terra Remote Sensing. This delay will not interfere with the project deliverables.

- The data collected for the project will be made available to the public.
- CoGS is focusing on geo-processing the LIDAR data collected in the spring of 2003. The initial Digital Elevation Models (DEMs) appear to be of excellent quality. Water levels for future climate change storm surge scenarios have been provided to CoGS for inclusion in the DEMs.
- Media outlets in the region are continuing to show a lot of interest in the NB Sea Level Rise Project.

Hurricane Juan: The Hurricane made landfall near Halifax at 1210 hrs ADT on 29 September 2004. The storm surge associated with Juan resulted in a record high 2.9 metre water level for Halifax; this caused extensive flooding of the waterfront properties. The surge peaked just after high tide; if it had peaked one hour earlier, the water level would have been an extra .4 metre high.

Meteorological Service of Canada: Weather forecasting in the region has been centralized in Dartmouth. The MSC will be establishing a full-time position in each of the provincial capitals to act as a liaison person and with a focus on education, awareness and the impacts of weather.

PRIVATE SECTOR / CHAMPLAIN INC: Norval Collins reported the following:

Atlantic Canada Geomatics Partnership:

- Over the last decade changes have occurred in the business case for geomatics. The focus has moved from mapping to decision-support tools, e.g., emergency response, environmental impact assessment, etc, which contribute to good governance and decision-making.
- The Atlantic Canada Geomatics Partnership (ACGP) is planned as an Atlantic Canada-wide organization. The ACGP would act as a vehicle for accessing government support to assist private companies in developing international export opportunities. The ACGP initiative has been led by Champlain Inc, which is currently in the process of closing, and NATI (Newfoundland and Labrador Alliance of Technical Industries).
- ACGP information and planning sessions have been held in Fredericton and in Halifax. A meeting will also be held in Moncton at the NB Community College.
- A recent development has changed the initial proposed structure for the ACGP; funded by ACOA and the NB Government and working in cooperation with UNB's Centre for Property Studies, Terradigm has been established to pool the resources and expertise of its partners to compete for international development contracts, primarily in the land administration sector.
- It is now suggested, therefore, that the ACGP function through MoUs among several groups in the region, including: Terradigm in NB, NATI in NL, the ACZISC, CCMC, and the CGPC. Efforts will be made to form a private sector-led node in NS.
- The geomatics private sector has been involved in and a strong supporter of the ACZISC for several years through the involvement of various organizations, including Champlain Inc., the Geomatics Association of NS (GANS) and the Geomatics Industry Association of NB (GIANB). Norval suggested that an MoU be developed between the ACGP and ACZISC to formalize and solidify the relationship between the ACGP and the ACZISC and to further strengthen the role of the industry. Mike Butler suggested that an MoU be developed by the ACZISC and the ACGP for consideration by their member agencies. Members agreed with this approach.

ACTION 41.20: Secretariat and the Atlantic Canada Geomatics Partnership to develop an MoU ASAP for consideration by the Committee and the ACGP/member agencies

Brent Rowley reported that the January/February 2004 issue of 'Hydro International' featured an article entitled "Ocean Survey – The World Market". The article reviews the most significant recent developments and provides a forecast for 2004-2008.

NATIONAL DEFENCE: LCdr Bob Thwaites, Trinity JOSIC, reported the following:

- Trinity continues to provide support on a daily and as required basis to the OGDs (other government departments), including the RCMP, Canada Customs and Revenue Agency, DFO, etc.
- Trinity's Geomatics unit will be established with full capability by mid February 2004. Sgt Rick Mayne, with the Geomatic unit, is now a member of the ACZISC Geomatics Working Group.
- The HFSWR (High Frequency Surface Wave Radar) upgrade was approved at \$34million. Up to 5 new sights will be built on the east and west coasts.
- The RMP (Recognized Maritime Picture) continues to be improved on:
 - The Canadian Coast Guard INNAV Command and Control system is being installed at Trinity on 31 March 2004.
 - The AIS (Automatic Identification System) data is being fed into INNAV. Under UN Chapter 5, ships of 500+ tons are required to be equipped with transponders, mainly for search and rescue, before 2008.
 - DFO-PAL flights continue to be very successful.
- Atlantic Littoral Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance Experiment:
 - ALIX is due to take place in the Eastern Arctic and Eastern Seaboard of Canada during August/September 2004. ALIX flights will focus on the Arctic; the Gulf of St Lawrence and the Canadian Forces Base at Gagetown, NB; and the Grand Banks.
 - ALIX is designed to integrate tactical, operational and strategic decision making within DND as well as other interested government departments.
 - An Uninhabited Aerial Vehicle (UAV) will conduct a mission of about thirty hours duration and provide information from sensors such as electro-optical, infrared and multi-mode maritime radar.
 - There is potential to support the needs of other departments with respect to surveillance requirements that coincide with the ALIX geographical areas. Government departments wanting to participate are asked to contact LCdr Bob Thwaites (thwaites.rg@forces.gc.ca) ASAP with suggestions.

Members expressed considerable interest in the ALIX experiment and discussed potential areas of application, including the Gully, the Baie des Chaleurs and the Torngat Mountains in Labrador.

ACTION 41.21: Members interested in the ALIX experiment for the purpose of having data acquired for their areas of interest (at no charge) to contact LCdr Bob Thwaites ASAP

Kyle Penney, Formation Environment Office, demonstrated the desktop mapping system used by DND for planning exercises to avoid potential problems, e.g., collisions with whales and disturbance of fishing activity.

SOUTHEAST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION: David Boyce reported the following:

- Voluntary Sector Initiative: The eight groups funded under the program to provide IM/IT support to voluntary groups were announced last week. The Community Services Council of Newfoundland covers NL and NS; the Easter Seals March of Dimes covers NB; and

SEA is responsible for PEI. CIPA from northern NB was contracted to look at the needs of the Acadian groups in the region. There is a common portal being developed for the entire national network at <http://www.volunteergateway.ca>

- CZM / IM: Last week SEA participated in the last of three DFO meetings on CZM being held in the Southern Gulf. SEA will be coalescing many planning processes including the Canadian Heritage Rivers management plan, SEA's environmental management plan, the Model Forest's sustainable forestry planning and a model watershed initiative being launched by the provincial government.
- Invertebrate Sampling: Dr. Trefor Reynoldson hosted a meeting at BIO in early January to discuss expanding the invertebrate sampling program to include estuary monitoring. At least six groups in the Gulf and the Bay of Fundy have agreed to test the program this summer.
- Summer Sampling: SEA's summer workload will include bacteria testing in the Cardigan watershed to examine possible non-point sources of contamination and nutrient testing in the Montague watershed. The agriculture conservation clubs are considering expanding membership based on watershed boundaries. This offers the potential to produce baseline information and then show the net difference once land use practices have been altered.
- CubeWerx: SEA is hoping to work with CubeWerx, which has applied for funding under the GeoInnovations program to develop technology to facilitate data collection in the field. The system would allow stream crews ready access to previous data and maps via a PDA while in the field collecting new information. The NB Lung Association is also working with the group on an air monitoring application.
- Ecolnstruct: SEA staff attended an Ecolnstruct meeting on metadata and sharing of data. As a result of this meeting, SEA will be hosting a listserv to facilitate further discussion among the participants and other interested parties.
- GeoConnections: SEA has submitted a proposal to GeoConnections under the communities of practice RFP. SEA would like to connect information on stream health and water quality to allow groups working in these areas ready access to pertinent indicators of ecosystem health. Information would reveal the age of the data and its source. Users would also have access to the guidelines for each indicator.
- Climate Change Projects: Several of the ACAP groups are interested in collaborating on a climate change/sea level rise project that would assess the vulnerability of coastal habitat and infrastructure.

ATLANTIC PROVINCES COUNCIL ON THE SCIENCES: John Burka, APICS and Atlantic Veterinary College, reported the following:

- APICS is a non-profit, volunteer organization composed of scientists, universities and other institutions in Atlantic Canada. Its goal is the advancement of science and technology through education and public awareness and the promotion of scientific literacy, education and research throughout the region. It fosters and encourages student-to-student and student-to-scientist communications. (Information on APICS is available at <http://www.apics.dal.ca>.)
- Dr. Roger Gordon, Dean of Science and Professor of Biology at the University of Prince Edward Island, is the APICS Chair.
- The Office of the Commissioner of Aquaculture Development (OCAD) is slated to close at the end of this fiscal year with no indication of renewal. Although aquaculture is now represented in other areas of DFO, the loss of the OCAD as a visible priority of government is a concern to the aquaculture sector. John commended the work of OCAD Commissioner Yves Bastien; his report entitled "Achieving the Vision" is available at <http://ocad-bcda.gc.ca>.
- A National Aquatic Animal Health Program is being developed; it is led by Sharon McGladdery, DFO.
- AquaNet is a Network of Centres of Excellence in aquaculture. AquaNet research focuses on new species, concerns regarding juvenile development of fish, invasive species, socio-

economic aspects of aquaculture, etc. The next AquaNet and Aquaculture Meetings will be held on 19-22 October 2004 in Québec City. Information on AquaNet is available at <http://www.aquanet.ca>.

- Dr. Frank Berthe has been appointed to head a new Canada Research Chair in Shellfish Health at the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC).
- Faculty and students from the UPEI Faculty of Science and the AVC are carrying out a number of research projects on PEI's aquatic ecosystems, including: ecotoxicology and sedimentation; stream health and restoration; pesticide impacts on groundwater; and land use impacts on shellfish health.

GOVERNMENT OF NEW BRUNSWICK: Mike Butler reported the following on behalf of Dave Finley, Service New Brunswick:

- Since the last ACZISC meeting, Jacques Dubé has replaced Bob Gamble as SNB President. Mr. Dubé served as DM for Business NB and prior to that, CEO of the Greater Fredericton Economic Development Commission (GFEDC).
- Over the past year topographic base mapping was focused on 4 areas: Digital orthophoto production; Creation of an Administrative Areas DataBase; Federal / provincial partnerships; and Preparation for a provincial road update. Work is progressing in all areas.
- Efforts are being made to refocus on geomatics and in particular on the need to evolve the provincial land infrastructure to meet current and future needs. This will continue in 2004/05.
- On 11 February, SNB in partnership with the Canadian Institute of Geomatics (CIG) will co-host the 2nd annual NB Government Geomatics Update Workshop. CIG had approached SNB last year to gauge the Government's interest in providing industry with the direction that provincial departments are taking with respect to geomatics activities. This would allow industry to position itself accordingly. Attendance at the 1st Workshop was ~ 75 with representatives from industry, government (federal/provincial/municipal) and academia.
- NB is also hosting Geomatics Atlantic 2004 on 7-9 June in Fredericton. The Conference will feature both educational sessions and networking/social activities.

GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA: Mike Butler reported the following on behalf of Justin Huston, NS Agriculture and Fisheries:

- In early December, NS Deputy Ministers invited DFO Oceans Branch staff to discuss the role of the Province in current and future Integrated Coastal Management initiatives. The discussion was well received by the Deputies, with an immediate result of increased participation in the Provincial Oceans Network (PON).
- A recent 'shuffle' of DMs has brought Dan Graham, formally with Natural Resources to Agriculture and Fisheries, and moved the former Agriculture and Fisheries DM, Peter Underwood, to Natural Resources. As Peter has been a strong and long-time supporter of ICM, greater participation by Natural Resources in coastal issues is anticipated, especially from a watershed perspective.

UPDATES ON ACZISC RELATED PROGRAMS

EASTERN SCOTIAN SHELF INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT: Joe Arbour reported that the online discussions on expanding the boundary for the ESSIM planning area have come to a close. The input is now being analyzed. The Integrated Management Working Group is looking at ocean use mapping with the intent of characterizing potential threats temporarily and spatially. The WG would like to make use of the expertise of ACZISC members in this regard. (For information on ESSIM, access <http://www.mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/e/essim/essim-intro-e.html>.)

GULF OF MAINE COUNCIL ON THE ENVIRONMENT / GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION COALITION FOR THE GULF OF MAINE:

- Joe Arbour reported the following:
- The Gulf of Maine Summit, an initiative of the GoM Council and GPAC for the Gulf of Maine, is scheduled for 26-29 October 2004 in St. Andrews, NB.
 - Prior to the Summit a State of the Gulf Report will be produced based on information from both local watershed forums and scientific literature. The report will document environmental, economic, and social trends and conditions for three primary issues – contaminants, fisheries, and patterns of development. The report will be used as a basis for discussion by Summit participants.
 - For information on the Summit, access <http://www.gulfofmainesummit.org>

Norval Collins reported that CEF Consultants had been successful in securing the contract to write the 'patterns of development' component for the State of the Gulf report.

Mike Butler reported that the Secretariat had facilitated a GoM Council 'Coastal Development Forum' on 4 December 2003 at Saint Mary's University in Halifax. The Forum explored how the provinces and states in the Gulf of Maine region are responding to challenges posed by coastal development, and the potential barriers and opportunities for ICM within and across jurisdictions. Recommendations were subsequently presented to the Council as to how it can assist states and provinces in addressing the issue of coastal development at a regional level.

OCEAN MANAGEMENT RESEARCH NETWORK: Mike Butler reported that the 2nd OMRN National Conference had taken place last November in Ottawa. The theme was "Canada's Oceans: Research, Management and the Human Dimension". A number of ACZISC members and associates were present. The ACZISC Secretariat staff also participated in the Conference; all their expenses were covered by the OMRN. (For information on the OMRN and the Conference, access <http://www.omrn.ca>.)

10. ACZISC WORKING GROUP GUIDELINES AND REPORTS

Copies of the ACZISC draft Working Group Guidelines and Terms of Reference were distributed. Mike Butler asked that members review these and provide comments to the Secretariat.

ACTION 41.22: ACZISC members to review the draft ACZISC Working Group Guidelines and Terms of Reference (dated 21 January) and provide comments to the Secretariat prior to next meeting

COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP: Copies of the ACZISC Communications Plan, developed by Marianne Janowicz and Geoff Lewis, the Working Group co-chairs, in collaboration with the Secretariat, were distributed. Members were asked to review the document and provide comments to Geoff and Marianne. In particular, Geoff requested comments on:

- Additional communication activities which the ACZISC may want to undertake
- Current communication activities which the ACZISC may want to discontinue
- How to simply evaluate the effectiveness of ACZISC communications.

ACTION 41.23: ACZISC members to review the draft ACZISC Communications Plan (dated 8 January) and provide comments by 29 February to the Working Group co-chairs, including: what the ACZISC could be doing to communicate more effectively, and how to evaluate the effectiveness of ACZISC communications.

David Boyce volunteered as a member of the Communications Working Group.

GEOMATICS WORKING GROUP: Andy Sherin reported that the ACZISC Geomatics Working Group had met from 0830 to 1000 hrs on 28 January. A number of issues were discussed, including the need to develop specifications for the proposed Atlantic Coastal Information Portal (ACIP) and to discuss the specifications with GeoConnections. GeoConnections has volunteered time/personnel to assist with the implementation of ACIP. The ACZISC would be responsible for its maintenance.

ACTION 41.24: Geomatics Working Group and Secretariat to develop specifications for the proposed Atlantic Coastal Information Portal (ACIP) and to communicate the requirements to GeoConnections prior to the next meeting

The Geomatics WG also discussed the draft MoU for the Gulf of Maine Ocean Data Partnership received by the Secretariat on 11 November from Evan Richert, Program Director, Gulf of Maine Program - Census of Marine Life. In his email to the Secretariat, Evan suggested that the MoU might be of interest and that it might be important for the ACZISC to be a member of the Data Partnership. WG members were supportive of the MoU but had some concerns; they recommended that the MoU be directed to individual ACZISC members and that it be simplified. The Secretariat was tasked with responding to Evan with these recommendations.

ACTION 41.25: Secretariat to communicate by 29 February with Evan Richert re the draft MoU for the Gulf of Maine Ocean Data Partnership with comments on the format of the MoU and suggestions for communicating directly with ACZISC members

INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP: Leslie Grattan, ICM WG co-chair, reported that the ACZISC ICM Working Group had met from 10:00 to noon on 28 January. She reported that the ICM Working Group was concerned with the lack of communication re ICM projects between governments, particularly with reference to sensitive sea areas. Most of the topics discussed in detail at the ICM WG Meeting were briefly reviewed during the Roundtable. Those not discussed include:

- Implementation of the Species-at-Risk Act (SARA)
- Upcoming meeting of the federal Deputy Ministers Interdepartmental Committee on Oceans
- Implications of Canada's ratification of UNCLOS.

Leslie invited all participants to discuss the possible implementation of an ICM Community of Practice in Atlantic Canada. Larry Hildebrand reported the following:

- The Community of Practice would act as an extension to the ACZISC.
- It would connect practitioners and interested individuals, enable synergies and provide a forum to learn from experience.
- The task at hand is to determine interest in forming the ICM Community of Practice and explore the structure of the group and the tools to enable it to communicate, e.g., an inventory of groups and activities, website, network, mailing list. The inventory could build on the existing inventory, created initially for Coastal Zone Canada 2000 and updated in 2002.

John Legault reported that he could provide an inventory of groups in NB and PEI.

Leslie Grattan added that she, Larry and John Legault, with the assistance of the Secretariat, had agreed to document the requirements for and a list of tasks/steps needed to implement an ICM Community of Practice In Atlantic Canada.

ACTION 41.26: Leslie Grattan, Larry Hildebrand, John Legault and Secretariat to document the requirements for and a list of tasks/steps needed to implement an ICM Community of Practice in Atlantic Canada prior to next meeting

11. COASTAL ZONE CANADA 2004

Tim Anderson and Leslie Grattan reported on CZC 2004:

- The Conference is scheduled for 27-30 June 2004 in St. John's. The Youth Conference is scheduled for 25-26 June. More than 600 participants are anticipated.
- A Public Forum on Coastal Issues is scheduled for Monday evening, 28 June.
- The Call for Papers ended on 16 January. Approximately 85 paper abstracts have been submitted by individuals from over 25 countries. In addition there have been requests for 25 special sessions.
- The early registration fee will be \$350. Participants are asked to book accommodations soon as rooms are being booked rapidly.
- The Conference website - <http://www.czc04.ca> - is presently being upgraded. It will include online registration, the Program outline, the abstracts, a list of accommodations, etc.
- To date financial contributions have been received from DFO, the NL Provincial Government, Voiseys Bay Nickel and IDRC. Funding from ACOA, EC, etc. is anticipated.
- Volunteers are being sought to assist with the delivery of the Conference, e.g., chair sessions, serve as rapporteurs, etc.

ACTION 41.27: Members and associates willing to assist the CZC 2004 Organizing Committee to email Grant Gardner, Chair of the Organizing Committee at ggardner@mun.ca

Mike Butler reported that the ACZISC has agreed to organize a session at CZC 2004. The session is scheduled for Sunday pm (27 June) for a period of 100 minutes. He asked for feedback on the format that this session could take. Members provided suggestions, including:

- Bob Thwaites: Reviewing an area from an integrated management perspective, the various departments/governments involved, and their roles and responsibilities.
- Larry Hildebrand: Briefing participants on the benefits derived from the ACZISC.
- Andy Sherin: Presentations from the community of interest to the community of practice.

Members agreed to assist the Secretariat in organizing the session.

ACTION 41.28: Secretariat, ACZISC members and associates participating in Coastal Zone Canada 2004 to develop the ACZISC session scheduled for at the Conference

12. ADJOURNMENT

ACZISC Meeting #41 adjourned at 1600 hrs on Thursday, 29 January 2004.