

# MINUTES OF ACZISC MEETING #45

## Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee

Date: Wednesday and Thursday, 18-19 May 2005

Location: Rodd Charlottetown Hotel  
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

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### **PARTICIPANTS** (<sup>1</sup>ACZISC member; <sup>2</sup>Advisory Committee member; <sup>3</sup> Director, ACZISC Association)

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Tel. No.</b>
Joe Arbour	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region, Oceans and Habitat (alternate for Carol Ann Rose <sup>1,2</sup> )	902-426-3894
Larry Avery	PEI Coastal Zone Impact Group	902-894-0385
Paul Ayles	Parks Canada, PEI National Park	902-672-6380
LCdr Jim Bradford <sup>1</sup>	National Defence, Trinity, Route Survey Office	902-427-7417
David Boyce <sup>1</sup>	Community Organizations, Southeast Environmental Association	902-838-3351
Carl Brydon	GeoNet Technologies	902-887-3170
John Burka	APICS <sup>1</sup> and Atlantic Veterinary College	902-566-0810
Michael Butler <sup>2</sup>	ACZISC Secretariat	902-494-1977
Colleen Mercer Clarke	Dalhousie University, PhD Program	902-457-0704
David Cody	Government of Nova Scotia, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Affairs (for Ed Light <sup>1</sup> )	902-667-7231
Harry Collins	Miramichi River Environmental Assessment Committee	506-778-8591
Norval Collins <sup>1,3</sup>	Private sector, CEF Consultants	902-425-4802
Réal Daigle <sup>1</sup>	Environment Canada, Meteorological Service of Canada	506-851-6743
Dolores Durant	Natural Resources Canada, GeoConnections Secretariat (alternate for Cameron Wilson <sup>1</sup> )	613-992-4333
Richard Eisner	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region, Innovation Office	902-426-7564
Grant Gardner	APICS <sup>1</sup> , Coastal Zone Canada Association and Memorial University of Newfoundland	709-737-8155
Nadine Gauvin	Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Coalition on Sustainability	506-858-4495
Russ Henry <sup>1</sup>	Government of New Brunswick, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture	506-457-6922
Darren Hicks <sup>1</sup>	Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Department of Natural Resources (also for Ken Dominie <sup>1</sup> , Environment and Conservation and Mike Warren <sup>1</sup> , Fisheries and Aquaculture)	709-729-6584
Larry Hildebrand <sup>1</sup>	Environment Canada, Sustainable Communities and Ecosystems Division	902-426-2131

## ***PARTICIPANTS (cont'd)***

Don Hogan	Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, Policy and Coordination	709-772-2954
Justin Huston <sup>1, 2</sup>	Government of Nova Scotia, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries	902-424-2996
Gordon Isaacs <sup>1</sup>	Natural Resources Canada, Geomatics Canada	902-661-6766
Martin Kaye	Bay of Fundy Marine Resource Centre	902-638-3044
Delly Keen	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Gulf Region, Oceans and Habitat	902-566-7823
David Lattimer	Friends of Covehead and Brackley Bay	902-672-1225
Claudette LeBlanc	ACZISC Secretariat	902-494-1977
John Legault <sup>1</sup>	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Gulf Region, Oceans and Habitat	506-851-6221
Gerald MacDougall	Government of Prince Edward Island, Environment, Energy and Forestry	902-368-6111
Frank MacEachern	Baseline Business Geographics	902-892-0300
Mary Lynn McCourt	Government of Prince Edward Island, Environment, Energy and Forestry	902-569-7598
Chris Milley	Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI	902-436-5101
Chris Morry	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Gulf Region, Oceans and Habitat	506-851-3338
Dale Nicholson	Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Canadian Hydrographic Service (for Richard MacDougall <sup>1</sup> )	902-426-4581
Irene Novaczek	Institute of Island Studies	902-566-0386
Kathryn Parlee	C-CIARN Coastal Zone Sector	902-426-8988
Brenda Penak	Bedeque Bay Environmental Management Association	902-886-3211
Bruce Raymond	Government of Prince Edward Island, Environment, Energy and Forestry	902-368-5054
Brent Rowley <sup>1, 2, 3</sup>	Private Sector, EIT Group	902-420-1435
Mike Sheen <sup>1</sup>	Industry Canada, Sustainable Technologies and Services Industries	709-772-5351
Ken Smith	Westmoreland River Watershed Committee	902-658-2164
Bob Taylor <sup>1</sup>	Natural Resources Canada, Geological Survey of Canada - Atlantic	902-426-7736
Darlene Upton	Parks Canada, PEI National Park	902-626-2912
Barry Wagner	Public Works and Government Services Canada (for Bill Blight <sup>1</sup> and Michel Goguen)	506-851-3454

### **1. *WELCOME and INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS***

Mike Butler, ACZISC Secretariat, called ACZISC Meeting #45 to order at 0830 hrs on Thursday, 19 May 2005. He welcomed members and guests. A roundtable introduction of all of the participants followed.

## 2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA, AND REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING #44**

The provisional Agenda for ACZISC Meeting #45 was reviewed and approved (attached).

The draft minutes of ACZISC Meeting #44 were reviewed. Bob Taylor reported that he had not made the comment attributed to him at the top of page 11, *i.e.* "The Centre's data sources include INAV from the CCG, other federal departments, the provinces, the private sector, Provincial Airlines (via DFO), the web, etc." Claudette LeBlanc checked her meeting notes and noted that the comment should have been attributed to Bob Thwaites.

The minutes were approved with the above correction. The revised minutes will be posted on the ACZISC website at <http://aczisc.dal.ca/44min.pdf>.

## 3. **STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS**

The Action Items from Meeting #44 were reviewed and will be reported under the relevant agenda item. All of the Action Items were either carried out or are in progress.

## 4. **UPCOMING ACZISC MEETINGS**

The upcoming ACZISC meetings are scheduled for:

**ACZISC Meeting #46: 21-22 September 2005 (revised), St. John's, NL**

**ACZISC Meeting #47: 18-19 January 2006, Fredericton, NB**

**ACZISC Meeting #48: 17-18 May 2006, Halifax, NS**

**ACZISC Meeting #49: 20-21 September 2006, Charlottetown, PEI**

## 5. **ACZISC ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION**

**ACZISC ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** Mike Butler stated that the Advisory Committee was established to provide advice and guidance to the Secretariat. It consists of a representative from each sector represented on the Committee: academia (Lois Whitehead); federal departments (Carol Ann Rose); the private sector (Brent Rowley); provincial governments (Justin Huston, chair); and the Secretariat (Mike Butler).

Justin Huston reported that a meeting of the Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, 5 May at the ACZISC Secretariat, prior to a meeting of the ACZISC Association Board of Directors. The agenda items were: preparations for ACZISC Meeting #45; contracts; the 2004-2005 year-end financial report; the proposed 2005-2006 budget; and potential strategies for funding. He added that these items would be discussed in more detail at this meeting.

**ACZISC MEMBERSHIP:** The following changes to ACZISC membership were announced:

- National Defence: LCdr Jim Bradford, Trinity Ocean Route Office, joins LCdr Bob Thwaites and Carol Lee Giffin in representing National Defence on the ACZISC.
- Natural Resources Canada: Gordon Isaacs, Geomatics Canada, joins Bob Taylor and Cameron Wilson in representing NRCan on the ACZISC.

David Boyce enquired about the status of membership from the Government of PEI. Mike replied that PEI was currently without representation and that efforts to identify a member had been made more difficult due to a large turnover of staff shortly after the retirement of Dave Younker, the former representative of the PEI Government on the ACZISC.

Justin Huston suggested that NGOs and the private sector in PEI write to the relevant DMs requesting provincial representation on the ACZISC. David Boyce volunteered to do this. Larry

Avery stated that the ACZISC was an important and effective regional forum. He added that he, Gerald MacDougall and others would discuss representation by the PEI Government on the ACZISC.

***ACTION 45.1: David Boyce to write a letter to the PEI Government in support of the appointment of a PEI Government representative for the ACZISC***

***ACTION 45.2: Larry Avery and others to discuss representation by the PEI Government on the ACZISC***

Justin added that the Provinces should consider appointing more members, as with Newfoundland and Labrador which has four representatives, to develop 'critical mass'.

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

**ACZISC BUDGET, FINANCIAL REPORT AND FUNDING:** Financial documents were distributed and reviewed (copies attached): the ACZISC Association 2004-2005 year-end financial report; the proposed ACZISC Association 2005-2006 budget; and the Summary of Provincial and Federal ACZISC Revenues 1992-2005. Mike Butler reported that invoices for the 2005-2006 membership dues have been distributed. Some of the dues have been paid.

Federal Funding:

- In November 2004, the federal ACZISC members finalized a three-year Letter of Agreement (LOA) for ACZISC funding for the period 2004-2005 to 2006-2007.
- The LOA is currently being circulated sequentially to each of the eight departments for signature.

Provincial Funding:

- From 1992 to 2002, most of the provincial contributions to the ACZISC were made by the Council of Maritime Premiers (now the Council of Atlantic Premiers – CAP) on behalf of NB, NS and PEI. Payments were made quarterly based on a per capita formula. Following a review of the CMP programs, provincial funding became the responsibility of the beneficiary provincial departments.
- Both NL and NS have organized the payment of membership dues. Efforts are ongoing to secure the payment of dues from PEI and NB. However, the long-term goal is to re-establish provincial funding via the Council of Atlantic Premiers (CAP).

Over the period of the ACZISC's existence (1992-2005), the split in federal and provincial funding is ~ 50/50.

Contracts: To earn revenue for the ACZISC and to supplement membership dues, the Secretariat, of necessity, is spending more time working on contracts. However, this is diverting attention from ACZISC priorities. Current contracts include:

- Study on the Economic Impact of the Ocean Technology Industry in Atlantic Canada and Potential Public Sector Demand for Ocean Technologies in Canada: An unsolicited proposal submitted to ACOA by the Secretariat in collaboration with Canmac Economics Ltd for the study was successful. The ACZISC portion of the \$80K contract is \$20.4K (\$7,650 in 2004-2005 and \$12,750 in 2005-2006). The purpose of this study is:
  - to provide the ocean technology industry in Atlantic Canada with strategic information on potential public sector demand for ocean technologies in federal departments.
  - to provide an accurate assessment of the economic importance and principal markets of the ocean technology industry in Atlantic Canada.

Canmac is focusing on interviews with the private sector and the Secretariat on interviews with the government sector. The assistance of ACZISC members will be sought.

- International Ocean Institute – Canada: \$15K (\$10K in 2004-2005 and \$5K in 2005-2006) from IOI-Canada, based at Dalhousie University, for staff support to organize the 8-week 2005 IOI Training Program on Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management. Several ACZISC members and associates participated as lecturers. Details of the Training Program are available at <http://internationaloceaninstitute.dal.ca/IOI2005/index.html>.
- National Secretariat of the Ocean Management Research Network (OMRN): \$7K in 2005-2006 from the OMRN National Secretariat, based at Saint Mary's University, for staff support. In addition, travel expenses are covered, including participation in the 2005 National OMRN Conference (29 Sept – 1 Oct in Ottawa).

*Discussion:*

Justin Huston: Discussions with CAP re ACZISC funding should have a new 'twist', e.g., a link to an existing federal/provincial MoU. The Advisory Committee will discuss tactics.

Grant Gardner: It would be helpful if the ACZISC could build a reserve fund. This could be used as a 'cushion' for extra activities, e.g., strategic planning. However, this is difficult to do when 'living from day to day'.

Chris Morry: To increase capacity without increasing costs, the ACZISC could consider the secondment of personnel from the federal government.

***ACTION 45.3: If applicable, members to pay outstanding 2005-2006 membership dues ASAP***

***ACTION 45.4: Members to review the ACZISC Association budget/financial report for 2005-2006 and provide comments to the Secretariat***

***ACTION 45.5: Advisory Committee to discuss new options for securing funding from the Council of Atlantic Premiers for the ACZISC***

**COMMUNICATION:** Claudette LeBlanc reported on the ACZISC Coastal Update and the ACZISC website:

- Coastal Update: An analysis of the distribution list for the e-newsletter, carried out by the Secretariat to identify 'gaps' in the composition of the list, was distributed and reviewed. Claudette reported that the Update is distributed monthly to ACZISC Members and Associates. On 14 April 2005, there were 3,768 Associates on the distribution.

Approximately:

- 80% of the 3768 Associates were from Canada (75% of the Canadian Associates were from Atlantic Canada)
- 60% of the 3768 Associates were from Atlantic Canada
- 8% of the 3768 Associates were from the USA.

Members were asked to review the list and provide feedback. Gordon Isaacs suggested that the list could be useful when seeking support for the ACZISC and requested that a digital copy be distributed.

- Website: Because the Dalhousie University server that hosted the ACZISC website since its implementation in 1995 has been decommissioned, the Secretariat has moved the website to a new server at the University. The URL has been changed to <http://aczisc.dal.ca>. The website features include information on the ACZISC, a Search function, What's New, the Atlantic Coastal Information Portal/ Database Directory, the Inventory of Coastal Mapping Projects, the Atlantic Coastal Community Profile, and links to Maps and Imagery Online, Documents (including minutes of ACZISC meetings), Conferences, Resources for Students and Teachers, and Related Programs. Justin Huston requested that website user stats be prepared and distributed, stating that these also were useful when looking for support.

Mike reported that a draft of the 2004-2005 ACZISC Annual Report had been prepared and would be distributed to members for comments prior to distribution. The final version will be available in June. Larry Hildebrand stated that the Annual Report is an effective briefing tool on the ACZISC.

***ACTION 45.6: Secretariat to distribute to members the Analysis of the Distribution List for the ACZISC Coastal Update and user stats for the ACZISC website***

***ACTION 45.7: Members to review the analysis of the distribution list and notify the Secretariat of agencies and groups that should be added to the list***

**ACZISC WORKPLAN:** The 2004-2005 ACZISC Workplan was distributed. Members reviewed and discussed the status of activities and deliverables. Members also reviewed the draft 2005-2006 ACZISC Workplan. They were asked to provide additional comments and suggestions.

***ACTION 45.8: Members to review the draft 2005-2006 ACZISC Workplan and provide comments to the Secretariat***

**ACZISC ASSOCIATION:** Mike Butler reported the following:

- The ACZISC Association was registered under the NS Societies Act on 24 November 2003.
- The Directors of the ACZISC Association are: Norval Collins, Brad Fay, Randy Gillespie, Brent Rowley (chair of the Board) and Lois Whitehead (Vice-chair). Because the Association was established primarily to act as the fiscal agent for the ACZISC Committee, government personnel cannot serve as Directors.
- Given that the Association is registered in NS, the AGMs have to take place at a location within the Province. The 1<sup>st</sup> AGM of the ACZISC Association was held on 19 January 2005 at the Cambridge Military Library in Halifax in conjunction with ACZISC Meeting #44. The 2<sup>nd</sup> AGM will be held in May 2006, also in Halifax, in conjunction with ACZISC Meeting #48.

Brent Rowley, Chairman of the Board, reported the following:

- The 4<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meeting was held on 5 May 2005 at the ACZISC Secretariat. Discussions focused primarily on the budget and funding. The Board is concerned about the 'instability' of funding for the ACZISC and the use of a personal line of credit for cash flow to meet financial obligations.
- A 5<sup>th</sup> meeting to review financial and other issues will be held prior to ACZISC meeting #46 scheduled for 21-22 September.

***ACTION 45.9: Secretariat to organize the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ACZISC Association Board of Directors prior to ACZISC Meeting #46 scheduled for 21-22 September 2005 in St. John's***

## **6. PRESENTATION: ATLANTIC COASTAL INFORMATION PORTAL**

Dolores Durant, GeoConnections, gave an online demonstration of the Atlantic Coastal Information Portal (ACIP) available on the ACZISC website at <http://aczisc.dal.ca/acip>. She reported the following:

- The Atlantic Coastal Information Portal is an online catalogue of geospatial data and services. It is Atlantic Canada's window on the GeoConnections Discovery Portal, which enables the discovery of and access to geospatial data for Canada and the rest of the world.
- ACIP is the latest phase in the development of the Atlantic Coastal Database Directory, which was initiated by the ACZISC in 1992.
- ACIP can be considered as a stepping-stone to building COINAtlantic.

Dolores reviewed the various functions, including data search, organizations search, services search, create a map using web mapping services (WMS), and a Z39 distributed search. She added:

- The map used for searching ACIP is a 'live' map from the Atlas of Canada.
- Canada is at the forefront in terms of WMS. Currently there are currently 5,500 map layers available. In the US there are ~1,000.
- The speed of the ACIP functions will improve with the release of the next version of the GDP planned for the summer.
- The metadata content in Atlantic Canada is increasing through efforts such as GeoNova and recent registrations from PEI. Efforts will be made to build a First Nation component.
- ACIP will continue to be supported by GeoConnections. It will be used by GeoConnections as a showcase.
- GeoConnections contracted (\$5K) Holonics for the services of a programmer to build ACIP. Dolores also briefed participants on other information initiatives, including MapsNL, the Newfoundland and Labrador OGC WMS Map Viewer – <http://www.mapsnl.ca> and the Land Information BC Discovery Service – <http://srmapps.gov.bc.ca/metastar/home.do>. She commented that the search engine Google – <http://www.google.ca> – was also a great tool for finding information.

On behalf of the ACZISC, Mike Butler thanked GeoConnections for its support in building the Atlantic Coastal Information Portal (ACIP).

## **7. PRESENTATION: VISION FOR A PEI CLIMATE CHANGE / SEA LEVEL RISE PROJECT**

Larry Avery, Team Leader, PEI Coastal Impact Group, briefed participants on 'A Vision for a Prince Edward Island Climate Change / Sea-Level Rise Project' (PPT presentation available at <http://aczisc.dal.ca/pei-cc.pdf>). Larry reported the following:

- GIS has been introduced into PEI's EMO and the Joint Emergency Operations Centre (JEOC) in Charlottetown for use as an emergency management tool.
- However, following recent storm surge events, Hurricane Juan, etc, emergency personnel were unable to map flooding predictions provided by Environment Canada and impacts in real time because of the lack of a high-resolution digital elevation mapping for the Island. They had to rely on reports from a network of volunteer fire departments re the status of flooding around the coastline of PEI.
- The 2001 climate change and sea level rise study of the City of Charlottetown and a part of the North Shore of the Island highlighted the capabilities of LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) as a method for collecting accurate elevation data.
- The need for LIDAR elevation data for the entire inter-tidal coastline of PEI from an emergency preparedness, mitigation, and disaster management perspective was discussed at a meeting of the provincial GIS coordinating Committee in October 2004.
- Following this meeting an ad hoc project prospecting group was formed to develop 'A Vision for a Prince Edward Island Climate Change / Sea-Level Rise Project':
  - The Project would be carried out over several years; it would be multi-stakeholder and multi-disciplined.
  - Project components would include LIDAR data collection and mapping of the coastline and land area of PEI's jurisdiction.
  - The project deliverables would be used for research, policy/strategy development and public safety and would have national and global applications. Products would include: a computer application; a 3-dimensional model; impact analysis capabilities for sea-level rise / storm surge; real-time data from tide gauges; prediction evaluation; confirmation of flood impacts; the establishment of benchmarks; a link to public warning system(s); and a web version for public awareness flood risk areas.
  - Potential partners include federal and provincial departments and agencies, NGOs, academia, First Nations, industry, etc.

Larry invited participants to contact Gerald MacDougall for further information or to indicate partnership interest in the Project.

***ACTION 45.10: For more information or to indicate partnership interest in the PEI Climate Change/Sea Level Rise Project, participants to contact: Gerald MacDougall, Climate Change Coordinator – tel (902) 368-6111 - email dgmacdougall@gov.pe.ca.***

## **8. COINATLANTIC AND ICM COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE WORKSHOP REPORT**

**COINATLANTIC:** Mike Butler stated that COINAtlantic – the Coastal and Ocean Information Network Atlantic – is being proposed as a coordinating body to facilitate information and data transactions in Atlantic Canada in support of integrated coastal and ocean management and the ICM Community of Practice. A COINAtlantic session was held yesterday from 1000-1200 hrs (Wednesday, 18 May) to discuss the draft COINAtlantic Implementation Plan and the next steps.

The following is a summary of key discussions points at the COINAtlantic Workshop:

**Mike Butler:**

- The coastal and ocean sectors are critical to the economy of Atlantic Canada.
- COINAtlantic is necessary to underpin the ICM Community of Practice.

**Norval Collins:**

- There is a need for buy-in by senior level federal and provincial agencies and personnel.
- The private sector can play an important role in implementing COINAtlantic and guaranteeing its success.

**Darren Hicks:**

- In order to get buy-in, results and benefits must be clearly identified.
- Requests for funds must be made by October/November at the latest to ensure consideration of funding in the following year's provincial budgets.

**Richard Eisner:**

- In the future the 'environmental' focus will be on integrated management, the cautionary principle and sustainability. This will necessitate geomatics tools integrated with data.
- Proposals focusing on education should be submitted to ACOA and IRAP by academia in partnership with industry to develop courses for effective data management for science.

**Dolores Durant:** It is important to identify the Communities of Practice and their needs. Joe Arbour and Frank MacEachern concurred with this, adding that it was important to start 'small' - with backbone - and to build on it.

**Justin Huston:** It is important that COINAtlantic help increase the usability of local, provincial, federal and other initiatives by 'connecting' them.

**Irene Novaczek:** NS has implemented an information system, based on the NL system, to support decision-making by communities. The website provides single-point access to socio-economic data and maps and allow comparisons of community resources. (The NS system 'Community Counts' is available at <http://www.gov.ns.ca/communitycounts>.)

Don Hogan: 'Community Accounts', the NL system, was implemented in 1996. It is available at <http://www.communityaccounts.ca>. The NL experience has indicated that it is important for a group to take responsibility for the quality of the data.

**Joe Arbour:** Coastal management is a 'mythical concept'. Resource managers work on one issue or another but not with all of the issues. They need to be realistic about their information requirements. John Legault concurred with this, adding that most users would require summary data – not terabytes and pedabytes of data.

**Russ Henry:** Some jurisdictions will not guarantee data quality for legal considerations.

**Justin Huston:** Municipal planners and councillors are 'close' to being ICM managers and are a

good target audience for COINAtlantic.

Richard Eisner: Within DFO, access to data is hampered by the fact that research is carried out at the project level and not at the program level.

John Legault: There is also a need to look at best practices. Dolores commented that best practices documents are available via the GeoConnections website (<http://www.geoconnections.org/CGDI.cfm/fuseaction/keyDocs.home/gcs.cfm>).

Don Hogan: An economic analysis was carried out for the Placentia Bay SmartBay project. Participants at a 2-day workshop identified the main user needs as weather forecasting for fisheries applications, including bathymetry, sea state, currents, temperature, etc. (The document entitled 'Feasibility Study - Placentia Bay Demonstration Project: Technology Solutions for Integrated Management' is available at <http://www.smartbay.ca/Downloads.asp>).

Norval Collins: Selling points for COINAtlantic include its use in identifying the vulnerability of the coastal zone, reducing damage to the coastal infrastructure, insurance costs, coastal eutrophication, etc.

Chris Morry: COINAtlantic should be 'marketed' to Canada's Oceans Action Plan.

Don Hogan: It is too late to target Phase 1 of the Plan. However, planning for Phase 2, which will be more substantive than Phase 1, will begin in September.

Joe Arbour suggested that the ESSIM Ocean Use Atlas, currently under way, could be a starting point and focus piece for a COINAtlantic Ocean Use Coverage on an Atlantic Basis. Partners could be sought within DFO, the Gulf of Maine Council, NOAA, etc. Norval added that this could also involve municipalities and ports.

Joe Arbour: Pilot areas could be used as proving grounds, e.g., Southwest NB or the Northumberland Strait.

Mike Butler concluded the workshop by stating that the Secretariat would brief Andy Sherin, Chair of the COINAtlantic Task Force, on discussions. Andy was unable to attend this workshop. The COINAtlantic Implementation Plan will be revised and efforts will be made to secure funds to prepare a Business Plan.

***ACTION 45.11: Task Group and Secretariat to revise the COINAtlantic Implementation Plan based on discussions***

***ACTION 45.12: Task Group and Secretariat to discuss funding requirements and options for the preparation of a COINAtlantic Business Plan and the implementation of COINAtlantic***

***ACTION 45.13: Task Group and Secretariat to organize a COINAtlantic session in conjunction with ACZISC Meeting #46 in St. John's***

**INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE**: Mike Butler stated that Communities of Practice are groups of people who share concerns, problems and benefits and have common requirements. A workshop was held yesterday from 1300-1700 hrs (Wednesday, 18 May) to initiate the process of identifying the ICM Community of Practice in Atlantic Canada and to document its requirements vis-à-vis COINAtlantic.

The workshop included an overview by Larry Hildebrand entitled "ICM Community of Practice: What is it? And why do we need it?"; a presentation of the Bedeque Bay Environmental Management Association (BBEMA) and the Southeast Environmental Association (SEA) by Brenda Penak and David Boyce - attached; and a presentation by Norval Collins on the link/relationship between COINAtlantic and the ICM Community of Practice - attached. A 2-page background brief on Communities of Practice had been prepared and circulated by the Secretariat prior to the Workshop.

The following is a summary of key discussions points at the Community of Practice Workshop:

Larry Hildebrand:

- A Community of Practice offers great potential to strengthen its constituency and to share experiences, which are often not documented.

- In Atlantic Canada, there is not a clear understanding of ICM initiatives currently underway.
- Communities of Practice are not owned by individual agencies and are not designed to advance individual agendas.
- 'Baseline 2000', produced for the Coastal Zone Canada 2000 Conference, includes a listing of ~700 ICM efforts worldwide. It is available at <http://www.uhi.umb.edu/b2k/index.htm>. A proposal to update Baseline 2000 has been submitted to the World Bank.

David Boyce and Brenda Penak: Both SEA and BBEMA are ACAP sites. The ACAP program was implemented via EC's Green Plan. ACAP sites are funded through a variety of sources including EC. There are 14 sites in Atlantic Canada. Each site defines its priorities. The ACAP themes are Knowledge Generation, Capacity Building and Environmental Action.

Bruce Raymond: Other groups would appreciate having the resources that ACAP sites secure.  
David Lattimer: The watersheds in PEI are in bad condition, primarily due to agricultural run-off. It is difficult to get volunteers to participate in restoration and maintenance.

Bruce Raymond: The PEI Department of the Environment, Energy and Forestry provides support for managing water resource on the Island. It has staff to gather and analyze scientific data. The process is in place to support watershed management but the resources are not available. The PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund does provide some funding support.

Larry Hildebrand: Funding is always a challenge for community groups. The Community Programs section of the EC website identifies funding programs - <http://www.ns.ec.gc.ca/community/resources.html#Fundraising>.

Harry Collins: The Environmental Trust Fund in NB is an important source of funding for community-based environmental NGOs.

Justin Huston: It seems that the problem of locating funding is a problem that is common to the Community of Practice.

David Lattimer: In Ontario, funds from government-run lotteries are available for community projects.

Chris Milley: Sharing information and experiences are important to First Nations.

Colleen Mercer Clarke: Some of the best ICM initiatives are undertaken by volunteers. Governments expect that community groups can do this without funding.

Chris Milley: The same discussions have taken place at a meeting of the Atlantic Environment NGOs. Perhaps an Atlantic-wide workshop should be organized to brief senior-level government personnel.

Richard Eisner: A great deal of progress can be made if COINAtlantic requirements and standards can be identified vis-à-vis the Community of Practice.

Chris Morry: COINAtlantic and the Community of Practice should be merged as they are interdependent.

Mike summarized the conclusions of the Communities of Practice workshop:

- a regional Communities of Practice workshop should be organized by the ACZISC
- a 'Community of Practice' section should be added to the ACZISC website and include a listing of ICM initiatives, experts, tools and a discussion board
- the ACZISC should continue to work collaboratively with 'partner' groups, e.g., BOFEP, SGSLCS, etc., to identify/establish the Community of Practice
- provincial members to provide the Secretariat with a list of ICM initiatives in their Province
- participants to provide user needs document to the Secretariat
- COINAtlantic and the ICM Community of Practice are interdependent.

***ACTION 45.14: ICM Working Group and the Secretariat to review suggestions made by the participants to determine how to move forward in building the Community of Practice, including:***

- ***Develop a new section in the ACZISC website to include a directory of practitioners, tools, etc.***
- ***Organize a regional ICM Community of Practice workshop***
- ***Incorporate the Community of Practice requirements into the COINAtlantic Business Plan***

**ACTION 45.15:** *ACZISC provincial members to provide the Secretariat with a list of ICM-related groups and projects in their Province*

**ACTION 45.16:** *Participants to provide the Secretariat with 'existing' documents on ICM user needs and best practices related to information infrastructures and networks*

**ACTION 45.17:** *Secretariat, with the assistance of NL-based members, to organize a workshop in conjunction with ACZISC Meeting #46 to continue the process of identifying the 'ICM Community of Practice' in Atlantic Canada and to document its requirements vis-à-vis COINAtlantic*

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

**GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA:** Justin Huston, Agriculture and Fisheries, reported the following:

- A celebration of World Oceans Day will be held on 8 June at the wharves behind the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic in Halifax. The event, featuring interactive, educational exhibits and displays, a live touch tank, demonstrations, etc, is being organized by several federal and provincial departments, environmental organizations, and industry. Anyone wanting to set up a booth should contact Justin – [hustonje@gov.ns.ca](mailto:hustonje@gov.ns.ca).
- A lighthouse divestiture policy for NS was submitted to Cabinet for review last week.
- The Coastal Coalition of Nova Scotia (<http://ccns.chebucto.org>) is a new NGO dedicated to the preservation, restoration and sustainable use of the Province's coastal ecosystems. The Coalition organized a Workshop in November in Cornwallis Park to examine coastal planning, legislation pertaining to coastal development, and opportunities to develop a coastal management policy for NS. More workshops will be organized to identify common interests. The Coalition is currently working on a Statement of Provincial Interest and a coastal management strategy. Efforts are being made to engage municipalities.

Dave Cody, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Affairs, reported the following:

- Several updated web services and new links are available through the GeoNova website (<http://www.geonova.ca>), including version two of the Coordinate Transformation Web Service.
- GeoBase is a web portal that provides access to framework geospatial data at no cost to users. Nova Scotia is involved in GeoBase standards with NRCan's Centre for Topographic Information in Sherbrooke, QC. The NS Geomatics Centre is converting the NS Topographic Database (NSTDB) to the new federal standards for roads and water. Updating of 285 1:10,000 files is well underway for Pictou, Antigonish and Guysborough using softcopy photogrammetry. Photogrammetric updating of the 340 files for Cape Breton Island is scheduled to begin in the fall
- Orthophotos for these areas should be available as a by-product of the softcopy process
- Large-scale orthophoto work will be undertaken for several areas this year (Pictou and Yarmouth).
- Scanning the 1:10,000 colour photography is proceeding well. About 1/3 of the Province (Cumberland, Colchester, Hants, Halifax, Kings and northern Annapolis and Lunenburg) is complete. The remainder should be done by April 2006
- A new Coordinate Referencing Policy for the Province is currently being drafted. It is hoped to have stakeholder approval by April 2006
- The 1:50,000 Nova Scotia Coastal Map series can be purchased online at <http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/maps>.

**GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR:** Darren Hicks, Natural Resources, reported the following:

- DNR continues to be engaged in the Grand Banks Integrated Management (GBIM) initiative with DFO Newfoundland Region. The Grand Banks/Placentia Bay is one of 5 Large Ocean Management Areas (LOMAs) identified under the Oceans Action Plan
- Darren attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> ESSIM Forum in February and continues to participate in the ESSIM Working Group.
- The Province and the Federal Government recently signed an MOU to work together to address climate change. The two governments have identified priority areas in which they can build partnerships and ensure a consistent, coordinated approach in their actions and initiatives on climate change. There will be some action that relates to coastal sensitivities, fisheries, watershed management, etc. For information refer to the press release at <http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2005/env/0429n01.htm>.
- Work on the seismic code of practice is in its final stages. This will be a benefit for numerous users of ocean resources.

Darren reported the following on behalf of Ken Dominie, Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC):

- DEC is working closely with DFO Newfoundland Region on Placentia Bay and the Smart Bay concept.
- Tom Osborne, the DEC Minister, made a presentation to the Senate on the review and amendment to Bill C-15. The news release and presentation were distributed; they are available at <http://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2005/env/0420n09.htm>.

**GOVERNMENT OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND:** Gerald MacDougall, Environment, Energy and Forestry, reported that he was acting as the provincial Climate Change Coordinator, replacing Erin Swansburg who is on leave. PEI has completed a 'Climate Change Strategy for PEI' and is now developing a Climate Change / Sea-Level Rise Project.

**NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA:** Dolores Durant, GeoConnections, reported the following:

- The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the Atlas of Canada will take place in 2006. It will feature a number of activities, including a large meeting in Ottawa during the week of 18 June of most of the Canadian geographic associations. Current plans include publishing a set of 1-2 dozen Atlas reference maps in pdf and jpg formats that will show major social and physical themes of Canada, e.g., mother tongue, population, the state of the Confederation in 1867, 1905, 1949, and 1999, and geology. A commemorative stamp may be issued.
- The GeoConnections Discovery Portal will be releasing version 4 in two months. The new version will have a 'cleaner' look and will be faster.
- Phase 1 of the GeoConnections program ended on 31 March; monies have been paid and final reports have been submitted. Some partnerships will continue into Phase 2, e.g., with Nova Scotia/GeoNova, Newfoundland and Labrador, EC and DFO.
- NRCan will continue to support the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure and its vision - collect the data once, hold it closest to source, make it accessible and use it many times.
- The latest federal budget (February 2005) has identified funding for the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the GeoConnections program - \$60 million over 5 years. Phase 2 will continue the work of Phase 1 and support decision-making on a broader range of issues, particularly the environment, sustainable development, health, public safety and issues of importance to Aboriginal people. Negotiations with Treasury Board on the specifics of spending the funds have been completed. It is anticipated that the new program will be launched by late summer/early fall. New funding opportunities will be announced in the GeoConnections website (<http://www.geoconnections.org>) and the monthly electronic newsletter.
- A new Atlas Framework layer at 1:1,000,000 is being developed and will be released as a web map/feature service. An agreement has been reached with the Province of NL to include their data. Anyone who has digital data that they would like included should contact Dolores. The layer will include digital delineations of coastal and undersea physical features. The coastal features are expected to be available by the fall of 2005.

***ACTION 45.18: Participants wanting to discuss providing data for the National Atlas Frameworks project dataset to contact Dolores Durant – tel 613-992-4333 – email [ddurant@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:ddurant@nrcan.gc.ca)***

Kathryn Parlee, C-CIARN Coastal Zone Sector, reported the following:

- The monthly C-CIARN Coastal Zone Newsletter outlines current coastal research projects in Canada and provides brief updates on recent coastal or climate change issues, funding announcements, upcoming events, etc. The newsletter is available on the C-CIARN Coastal Zone website at <http://c-ciarn.bio.ns.ca>. To be added to the distribution list, email [kparlee@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:kparlee@nrcan.gc.ca).
- C-CIARN and the Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Program (CCIAP) recently co-hosted the national conference 'Adapting to Climate Change in Canada 2005: Understanding Risks and Building Capacity' from 4-7 May 2005 in Montréal, Québec. The workshop was attended by over 300 participants. Conference information is available at [http://adaptation2005.ca/home\\_e.html](http://adaptation2005.ca/home_e.html). Presentations and a conference summary will be available shortly.
- C-CIARN Coastal Zone has provided assistance with identifying and developing collaborative research teams, as well as reviewing draft Letters of Intent and Proposals for the CCIAP funding calls 'Coastal Zone and Communities'.

Bob Taylor added that one of the activities of C-CIARN is to organize workshops to disseminate information on topics of relevance to climate impacts and adaptation. Suggestions are welcome.

***ACTION 45.19: Participants with a requirement for a workshop to contact Kathryn Parlee, Coordinator, C-CIARN Coastal Zone Sector – tel 902-426-8988 – email [kparlee@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:kparlee@nrcan.gc.ca)***

Gordon Isaacs, Geomatics Canada, reported the following:

- The 4<sup>th</sup> Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) National Geomatics Workshop is scheduled for 1-2 June in Sydney, NS - [http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/at/geo\\_e.html](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/at/geo_e.html).
- The Legal Surveys Division of Geomatics Canada will become the Canada Centre for Cadastral Management.
- The Surveyor General of Canada Lands has prepared a White Paper titled 'Marine Cadastre in Canada's Offshore'. The paper is intended to develop awareness among NRCan's senior managers about the role of cadastral systems in the context of good governance and sustainable development and to promote its relevance. It is also intended to identify an Earth Science Sector strategy for promoting, developing and implementing a marine cadastre concept for Canada.
- The University of New Brunswick has also prepared a paper for the Association of Canada Land Surveyors titled 'Marine Cadastre: The Basis for Understanding the Use and Governance of Oceans Spaces'. The paper outlines the basic needs for a marine cadastre, including: clarifying jurisdictional complexities in Canada's coastal zones and offshore; the need for co-management; implementation of the Oceans Act; regulation of pipelines and submarine cables; and preventing and resolving flash point issues.

Bob Taylor, Geological Survey of Canada – Atlantic, reported the following:

- The GSCA continues to participate in the Southeast NB sea level project by monitoring shoreline changes at select sites and the redeployment in 2005 of two wave gauges in the Northumberland Strait. In addition, shore surveys are continuing to assess the impact of the 27 December 2004 storm surge on shoreline stability along the Northumberland Strait and the north shore of PEI.
- Bernard Long of Laval University and Geoide is trying to bring in an airborne Lidar system with the capability to measure topography in both terrestrial and marine areas. His areas of interest are the shores of Gaspé and les Iles de la Madeleine. There may be opportunity for

- others such as the GSC to join forces and carry out some Lidar surveys in NB.
- Multibeam bathymetric surveys and associated maps have been completed for the Canso Strait (R. Parrott), the Bras d'Or Lakes (J. Shaw), and more surveys are continuing off Southwest NS in an onshore-offshore bedrock mapping exercise (B. Todd). Approximately 25,000 sq km of multibeam data have been collected for habitat mapping across German, Brown and George's banks. Multibeam mapping is planned in 2005 (G. Sonnichsen) offshore of Cape Harrison, Labrador, in collaboration with the CHS.
- New activities under the GSC Geoscience for Ocean Management Program include the investigation of the marine geology of the St. Lawrence Estuary (in collaboration with DFO) and Placentia/Argentia, NL.
- Geochemical investigations under the MITE (Metals in the Environment) program are continuing in the Sherbrooke area near an old mine tailings site to establish any effects on the marine environment.
- The Canadian Coastal Conference will be held on 6-9 November 2005 at the Harbourview Holiday Inn in Dartmouth, NS. A special workshop focusing on nearshore processes and future directions for research has attracted a large number of international participants. Several of the presentations will deal with the Atlantic region and there will be a special tsunami session. For information, access <http://www.ccc2005-ccl2005.ca>.

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

- Federal-Provincial Sustainability Agreement: Under EC's new Competitiveness and Sustainability Framework (CESF), EC and the four provincial Environment departments in Atlantic Canada will be negotiating an MOU under this theme. Among several areas of cooperation is the intent to coordinate and improve monitoring, data sharing, and information management for environmental issues of provincial, regional, national and international concern. This information will help improve policy development, performance measurement (outcomes!), reporting and accountability. The ACZISC may be well positioned to play a central role in the realization of this goal.
- Moving Forward on Climate Change: On 13 April 2005, the Government of Canada released its revised climate change plan, Moving Forward on Climate Change: A Plan for Honouring our Kyoto Commitment. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of Project Green, the Government's national project to create a healthier environment and a stronger economy and ultimately to build a more sustainable future. Canada's target under the Kyoto Protocol is to reduce its annual GHG (Greenhouse Gas) emissions over the period 2008-2012 to a level 6% below its actual emissions in 1990 - the most challenging GHG emissions-reduction target among the 141 Kyoto signatories.
- Canadian Assistance in Post-Tsunami Thailand: In January 2005, two weeks after the Boxing Day earthquake and resultant tsunami in the Indian Ocean, a 3-member Canadian team, including Larry, was sent to the hardest-hit areas in southern Thailand to conduct a coastal needs assessment and to recommend areas for Canadian technical assistance. Recommendations were developed for follow up and CIDA has committed to financial assistance in this regard. CIDA has approached EC to lead the follow-up which will focus on training in ICOM, community re-development, aquaculture development assistance and, potentially, remote sensing and GIS. The overall theme will be the sustainable re-development of the coastal zone of Thailand. Further details on specific project activities and opportunities for federal, provincial, academic and private sector members will be reported through the ACZISC.

Norval Collins enquired if there would be opportunities for private sector involvement in the Canadian tsunami assistance program in Thailand. Larry responded that there would be.

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

- The NB Sea Level Rise Project has entered its final phase with a Final Report due at the end of the fiscal year. A large portion of the remaining activity will concentrate on the preparation of the report. Individual components will be published in the NRCan Open File

- system.
- Within the context of the MSC restructure, all regional weather and environmental forecasting services are now provided through the new Atlantic Storm Prediction Centre (ASPC) in Dartmouth.
  - The ASPC is moving into a new space on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Queen Square, which will be equipped with the latest high-tech tools. Forecasting will be further automated this summer through the implementation of a system that allows weather forecast products to be generated automatically through a meteorologist-enhanced weather element database. This database will subsequently become available to private weather forecasting firms to generate their own client-specific forecasting products, e.g., the Weather Network.
  - The MSC is currently staffing a Weather Preparedness Meteorologist (WPM) position in Charlottetown. It is expected that the person will be in place by the end of the summer. The WPM will focus on outreach activities in PEI.

**FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA:** Richard Eisner, DFO Maritimes Region, Science, Innovation Office, reported the following:

- National Science Data Management Committee: DFO will focus its functions in six areas: Monitoring, Data Management, Targeted Research, Advice, Products and Management. The review of the data management functions by the Committee will include the state of data archives, the management of non-numerical assets, and data and information accessibility.
- Science Reductions and Refocus: DFO will focus its analytical laboratories in two locations in the Pacific and Québec Regions. The Maritimes Region will be a centre of expertise for oil and gas environmental research that will include laboratories for hydrocarbon research.
- DFO Maritimes has reorganized into four main divisions: Population Ecology, Ecosystem, CHS and Oceans Sciences. The main reason for the reorganization is the new focus on multi-species research rather than on single species research.

Joe Arbour, DFO Maritimes Region, Oceans and Habitat, reported the following:

- DFO released the first draft of an Integrated Management (IM) plan for the ESSIM initiative at the ESSIM Forum Workshop held in February of 2005. This draft represents the first IM Plan under the Oceans Act to be developed in Canada. It is out for public review until October. As part of the preparation for moving the plan forward DFO is in the process of establishing a senior level steering committee to oversee the delivery of initiatives such as ESSIM as part of the Oceans Action Plan. It is hoped to have the committee in place over the summer.
- The Oceans and Coastal Management Division (OCMD) has completed the electronic Ocean Use Atlas for the Scotian Shelf. This Atlas will also be produced as a limited number of hard copies. It includes over 50 layers depicting ocean uses occurring in the Scotian Shelf area.
- Ecosystem Overviews are being completed for the Scotian Shelf and Bras d'Or Lakes. These overviews provide a synopsis of the ecological characteristics of the area and an assessment of the ecosystem dynamics, stressors and responses within the system.
- The Musquash Estuary continues to progress towards Marine Protected Area status. It is hoped that the process will culminate in designation of this important area sometime in the fall of 2005.
- DFO Maritimes region recently received a visit from the EU Fisheries Commissioner. Commissioner Borg spent two days talking with DFO managers at BIO to discuss Canada's approach to Oceans Management, and our experiences in ESSIM and the Gully.

Dale Nicholson, Canadian Hydrographic Service - Atlantic, reported on the following:

- Planned publications in 2005/2006: new charts; new editions of existing charts; chart update patches; and sailing directions diagrams.
- Planned field activities in 2005/2006 (refer to Appendix 1 for details):
  - Oceans Action Plan: 50 survey days in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, in cooperation with NRCan.

- Law of the Sea Baselines: Investigate rocks, landfalls, etc. on an opportunity basis to improve existing baseline coverage. Tenders for offshore surveys pending.
- National Initiatives Fund - Search and Rescue Labrador: Tide gauge data for various locations and a multibeam corridor survey.
- Revisory Surveys: Various locations, primarily in Newfoundland and Labrador
- Newfoundland and Labrador Cost Recovery Surveys (resources permitting)
- Notre Dame Bay Charting Advisory Committee: Conduct survey investigations on an opportunity basis
- Hydrographic Information Network: This project involves the management of bathymetric data in the CHS Source Database, all other data of hydrographic significance (points, lines and areas) in the CARIS Hydrographic Production Database, and all metadata in the CHS meta-database, named CHSDIR. The first product, an Electronic Navigational Chart for Bedford Basin, will be published from this system in the summer of 2005.
- Tides and Water Levels Activities: The tsunami of December 2004 has highlighted the need for improved warning and tidal information throughout the world. CHS currently maintains a Pacific Region tsunami warning station. Proposals, and resulting resources, are being directed towards improving Canada's tides and water levels information systems.
- Canada/NDI Agreement: On 4 January 2005, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) sent a letter to NDI, terminating the Canada/NDI Agreement, effective 4 February 2005. On 2 February 2005, NDI filed a notice of intention to file a bankruptcy proposal in the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador (Trial Division) (in Bankruptcy and Insolvency). On 3 February 2005, NDI filed a statement of claim in the Federal Court against DFO for damages in the amount of \$109 million, plus \$5 million in punitive damages with regard to the termination of the Canada/NDI Agreement. For further information on this issue, access <http://www.cartes.gc.ca/chs/en/help/chsndi.asp>.
- Canadian Hydrographic Conference 2006: CHS Atlantic will host the next International Hydrographic Conference to be held in Halifax in June 2006.

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

- Vessel Monitoring Systems: 'Little black boxes' have been installed on crab fishing boats in the Gulf Region for the first time. Uses include protection and research. The VMS will be tested on the crab fleet initially and, if successful, the program will be expanded to the other fishing fleets.
- Integrated Management: The GOSLIM (Gulf of St. Lawrence Integrated Management) initiative soon may be announced publicly, with funding made available through the Oceans Action Plan. The initial focus will be on engaging stakeholders both internally within the Department and externally, and the publication of a background document, system overview reports and environmental assessments.
- Bay by Bay initiative: A shellfish planning project has been *underway* for over a year in collaboration with the NB Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture. The objective is to develop a proactive plan for aquaculture siting and capacity and conflict avoidance for commercial production of shellfish on the east coast of NB. Two pilot areas have been selected: Richibucto and Tabusintac.
- MPAs: The Basin Head Area of Interest continues to progress towards Marine Protected Area status, as with the Musquash Estuary site. It is hoped that MPA designation for Basin Head will be announced by the fall of 2005.

Dale Nicholson asked if the VMS is voluntary or a legal requirement. John stated that he didn't know and that he would check. **(Note:** Chris Morry has subsequently reported that DFO Conservation and Protection indicates that VMS is now a legal requirement. Vessel captains can be charged if they leave port without it operating. Overflights continue and if a vessel spotted visually doesn't appear on the screen where the locators are tracked they are charged.

Chris Morry, DFO Gulf Region, Oceans and Habitat, reported the following:

- One new project of note is the proposed 'Ecosystem Overview and Assessment of the Northumberland Strait'. This was initially brought about by fishermen's concerns that

environmental perturbations, particularly relating to the construction of the Confederation Bridge, may be at least partially the cause of steep declines in landings in several fisheries. The project scope has been broadened to include the entire Northumberland Strait. The intention is to involve all government agencies concerned and all stakeholders in a process to gather new data where historical information is not available. The project could lead to a form of Integrated Management for this geographic region, possibly defined as a 'Coastal Management Area' in the terminology of the Oceans Action Plan.

- For the purpose of adding content to the latest iteration of coastal and oceans educational material, circulated on CDs to schools throughout the Gulf Region, contact Jim Weldon at tel 506-851-321.

**INDUSTRY CANADA:** Mike Sheen, Sustainable Technologies and Services Industries, reported the following:

- While preparing an internal report on Geomatics and Sustainable Development for the Sustainable Technologies and Service Industries Branch, a number of questions arose with respect to growing the Canadian geomatics industry.
- In collaboration with NRCan and the Geomatics Industry Association of Canada (GIAC), IC is participating in a series of geomatics workshops being held nationwide. Mike and a colleague from western Canada make a short presentation and then ask participants to share their views with respect to the following:
  - Canada is recognized internationally for its geomatics capabilities, so why is it not winning a larger share of geomatics projects in foreign markets?
  - Canadian governments assist the development of technical expertise in this sector. Should they be doing more to foster competitiveness and industry development? Do you think industry development strategies that bring partners together at the regional level would be a good idea?
- An overview document distributed at the workshops is attached.

**PUBLIC WORKS AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES CANADA:** Barry Wagner reported the following:

- From a national perspective, PWGSC is going through a transformation process called 'The Way Forward'. This is a wide-ranging initiative to modernize government by improving management, ethics and accountability and saving money to reallocate to higher priorities, including a new deal for communities and the environment.
- PWGSC are helping to lead the Government's sustainable development agenda, by buying environmentally sound products and services and improving the energy efficiency of government buildings.
- In the Atlantic Region, the Business Geographics and Geographic Information Systems section (GIS) of Real Property Geomatics is continuing to provide GIS technology in support of internal and other government departments programs. Projects include business and real estate support, harbour management and environmental assessment and remediation.
- Business Geographic projects based on MapInfo are being used for real property decision making, in support of site selection studies, divestiture strategies, land claim negotiations, addition to Reserves, ministerial inquiries, homelessness initiatives and the management of real property inventory. Projects range from ad hoc requests to national initiatives.
- A CARIS-based GIS utilized for Harbour Management has been providing support for over 14 years to the Canadian Coast Guard, Waterways Section. It is a tool to manage hydrographic surveys, buoys, notices to shipping and mariners, construction contracts and spatial mapping information.
- Web-base mapping products have been developed to meet the specific requirements of project management. DFO's Small Craft Harbours Directorate and PWGSC share a website providing aerial mapping of their sites in the Maritime Region. The Sydney Tar Ponds environmental remediation project has a dedicated website running on Autocad MapGuide that is available to all stakeholders. It provides the capability to analyze and query, utilizing its extensive mapping, aerial photography and environmental sampling data. The Argentia environmental remediation project has an ARC MIS based GIS application to assist in the

- management of site clean up and the subsequent disposal of the property.
- Digital Contingency Plans are being maintained for the Confederation Bridge, Harbours and Ports sites and Transport Canada Airports.
- The future direction and role that Real Property Geomatics will be playing in PWGSC is being reviewed within the framework of 'The Way Forward'. A more clear direction will be provided in 2, 5 and 10-year time frames, in coordination with the implementation of new initiatives within the Department.

**ATLANTIC CANADA OPPORTUNITIES AGENCY:** Don Hogan, ACOA NL, reported the following:

- Ocean Technology Thematic Workshops: Federal regional agencies, the National Research Council and Industry Canada have agreed to undertake a series of Thematic Workshops focused on ocean technologies. ACOA has approached the Canadian Centre for Fisheries Innovation (CCFI) located at the Marine Institute (MUN) about hosting its Thematic Workshop on Technologies in Support of Biomass Measurement and Monitoring. This workshop will be one of 3 or 4 such workshops aimed at identifying priority ocean technologies that the Government of Canada, universities and industry should be focusing development efforts on as Canada moves towards improved oceans management. Western Diversification (WD) will be hosting a 'Port Security' workshop, while the National Research Council (NRC) is planning an 'Arctic Environment' workshop. Canada Economic Development Québec (CED-Q) is considering a workshop on 'Marine Navigation'. The ACOA and WD workshops are provisionally scheduled for the fall of 2005. Details will be provided to the ACZISC upon determination of exact times/locations.
- OceansAdvance: The NL ocean technology association was established 3 years ago by the NRC Institute of Ocean Technology in St. John's. It is in the process of building a case for a Northwestern Atlantic Ocean Observatory focusing on Marine Life. Planning is underway to host a Living Resource Forum with guests from Conservation International, the Census of Marine Life, plus other international ocean research organizations.
- Oceans Action Plan: The OAP Treasury Board submission should be signed off by Ministers in June or early July. Due to limited funding, the proposed Ocean Technology Solutions Fund was dropped and the Networks of Networks initiative is only receiving \$200,000 over two years - much less than the \$2M requested. The Placentia Bay Technology Demonstration Project will receive \$2M from the OAP, which will flow through ACOA NL. The Canadian Centre for Marine Communications (CCMC) will serve as project coordinator for this 2-year project aimed at demonstrating Canadian ocean technologies in support of integrated oceans management.

**COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:** David Boyce, Southeast Environmental Association, reported the following:

- Biomonitoring: Many community groups across the region are involved in biomonitoring programs. These include DFO's Community Aquatic Monitoring Program (CAMP), which involves beach seining in estuaries; the Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network (CABIN) which looks at benthic macro-invertebrates in freshwater; and a new program to expand CABIN monitoring in estuaries.
- Atlantic Coastal Action Program: The ACAP groups met on 21 April with the DM for Environment Canada who spoke about the Department's new direction and the 'new' industrial revolution. This involves making companies more sustainable to improve Canada's efforts internationally. ACAP is developing a results-based management accountability framework (RMAF) for its program. Each ACAP group will also develop an RMAF based on its priorities. Many of the ACAP groups have been involved in international work to support the development of coastal community groups in Thailand and Uruguay.
- ResEau: All of the ACAP groups will be putting their water quality and water quantity information in this water network, a web-based GIS application. The information will be registered in the CGDI and will be shared with other data providers, including the Province of PEI.

- **On-site Sewage:** In April, ACAP and the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Coalition on Sustainability sponsored a workshop on on-site sewage in Montague. The workshop committee will continue to maintain momentum going on this topic. The workshop website has been transformed into an information source re on-site sewage treatment – <http://www.seapei.ca/onsite>.
- **Artificial Reefs:** SEA is working with the Bedeque Bay Environmental Management Association (BBEMA), its sister ACAP group on PEI, to study placing artificial reefs along the Northumberland Strait to create more habitat for lobsters and other fish. This could also involve groups from NB and NS. Community meetings on the topic may be held in the fall.
- **Oil Spill Committee:** The Maritime Regional Advisory Committee on Oil Spills is chaired by Transport Canada. To date the Committee's mandate has been focused on responding to regulatory concerns but the Committee wants to expand its mandate to address issues on a more proactive basis, e.g., abandoned vessels. The Committee is seeking ways to communicate with the public and get feedback regarding the derelict ship in Cape Tormentine which has broken free of its moorings.

**SOUTHERN GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE COALITION ON SUSTAINABILITY:** Nadine Gauvin reported the following:

- The Coalition AGM was held in Montague, PEI on April 23 in conjunction with the 'On-Site Sewage Treatment' workshop. The 2006 AGM will be held at a location in northern NB; the associated workshop will be on the topic of 'Sustainable Energy'.
- Following this year's AGM, the Management Committee members of both the Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership (BoFEP) and the Coalition met to discuss how they could work more closely together. It was suggested that a joint workshop be organized in the coming year on an issue of common interest.
- The Coalition, in partnership with the First Nation of Gespeg (near Gaspé, QC), hosted a one-day 'Linking Science and Traditional Ecological Knowledge' workshop in Gaspé on 7 May. The event was sponsored by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC).
- A proposal has been submitted to the NB Environmental Trust Fund for a pilot project to develop a 'GIS Service Node' that would assist community groups with building their GIS capacity.
- A Coastal Erosion Monitoring and Education program, sponsored by Shell Canada, will provide a 'snapshot' on the erosion rates in the Southern Gulf. Five ENGO groups throughout the Southern Gulf are collecting erosion data for their respective coastlines.
- A proposal entitled 'Tools for Community Planners' is being submitted to the Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Program; its goal is to fill the gap re existing knowledge and accessible information. The proposal was initiated by the Coalition's Coastal Erosion Working Group.
- The Coalition Management Committee is developing a plan to increase the Coalition's profile in the entire Southern Gulf.
- In an effort to recruit new members and enhance the Coalition profile, the Coordinator would be pleased to provide a presentation on the Coalition at community group meetings, etc. For more info, contact the Coalition office at tel 506-858-4495. (For information on the SGSLCS, access <http://www.coalition-sgsl.ca>.)

**BAY OF FUNDY MARINE RESOURCE CENTRE:** Martin Kaye reported the following:

- In the past, the BFMRC was involved primarily in community-based management and, in particular, habitat protection. Integrated management is now central to the activities of the community groups. BFMRC's focus for the next few years will be on climate change.
- One of BFMRC's projects is the Upper Bay of Fundy Fisheries Management Plan.
- The BFMRC is supporting the development of 7 new Resource Centres around the Bay of Fundy.
- Funding support for the MRCs is provided in part via the Saltwater Network – see <http://www.saltwaternetwork.org>.

**ATLANTIC PROVINCES COUNCIL ON THE SCIENCES / MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY:** Grant Gardner reported the following:

- The goal of APICS is to strengthen research and technology in the region by providing a link between scientists in the universities and the government, and by fostering communication and cooperation among science students.
- Membership in APICS includes every Faculty of Science in Atlantic Canada, plus government institutions (DFO, NRC), and some community colleges. More Information on APICS is available at <http://www.apics.dal.ca>.
- Opportunities exist for engaging academics in ACZISC activities and projects. For example, COINAtlantic and the ICM Communities of Practice are likely to be of interest to the wider academic community.
- The ACZISC should consider discussing with Lois Whitehead, the APICS Executive Director, the possibility of a presentation on the ACZISC and its activities to the APICS Council. The Council includes all Deans of Science and the Chairs of all the APICS Committees.
- Memorial University and its Marine Institute have major strengths in ocean studies. Expertise at the MI includes the CCMC and a program in CZM. On the main campus, in addition to several faculty working in coastal research, there are Canada Research Chairs in Offshore and Underwater Vehicle Design (contact: Neil Bose - [nbose@engr.mun.ca](mailto:nbose@engr.mun.ca)), Marine Bioscience (contact: Bill Driedzic - [wdriedzic@mun.ca](mailto:wdriedzic@mun.ca)), and Boreal and Cold Ocean Systems (contact: Paul Snelgrove - [psnelgro@mun.ca](mailto:psnelgro@mun.ca)). Two new chairs are currently being sought – one in Seabed Imaging and Seabed Processes, and another in Marine Biotechnology.
- MUN has also developed considerable expertise via the Coasts Under Stress project, which integrates science and socio-economic studies of coastal communities.

***ACTION 45.20: Secretariat to contact Lois Whitehead re scheduling a possible presentation to the APICS Council on the ACZISC and its activities***

**ATLANTIC PROVINCES COUNCIL ON THE SCIENCES / ATLANTIC VETERINARY COLLEGE:** John Burka reported the following:

- The APICS Aquaculture and Undergraduate Biology Conference held in March at St. FX in Antigonish featured excellent student presentations. One of the keynote speakers was Thierry Chopin, UNBSJ, who presented on polyculture - salmonid, mussel and seaweed aquaculture carried out together to optimize resources and minimize environment impacts.
- The Aquaculture Committee is interacting with AquaNet (Network of Centres of Excellence in Aquaculture). Coastal zone management is recognized as being integral to sustainable aquaculture.
- The 'new' APICS Environmental Studies Committee held its 1<sup>st</sup> student conference last fall.
- The Atlantic Veterinary College at UPEI is supported by and responsible to all four Atlantic Provinces. It is developing a National Centre for Aquatic Animal Health (contact: Larry Hammell - [lhammell@upei.ca](mailto:lhammell@upei.ca)). The Centre will do research and provide services for finfish and shellfish and will have nodes across Canada. The College also has the Lobster Sciences Centre (contact: Rick Cawthorn - [cawthorn@upei.ca](mailto:cawthorn@upei.ca)) and the Canada Research Chair in shellfish health (contact: Franck Berthe - [fberthe@upei.ca](mailto:fberthe@upei.ca)). The units operate through partnerships with government (DFO, NRC), veterinarians, industry (aquaculture, pharmaceutical, feed, etc.) and NGOs (Atlantic Salmon Federation, etc.).

**DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY PHD PROGRAM:** Colleen Mercer Clarke reported the following:

- She is working with Dr. Shannon Bard (Marine Biology, Dalhousie University) and Dr. John Roff (Director, Atlantic Centre for Global Change and Ecosystem Research, Acadia University) as she embarks on an Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program. Her PhD will focus on the development of a predictive planning tool for improving understanding of the contribution of differing land uses to the nutrification of surface waters in 12-16 watersheds in Nova

Scotia, and the potential impact of eutrophication on the biodiversity of the receiving coastal waters.

- The research program will rely on a GIS platform to organize and present data from a range of sources, and will include both existing information and new data gathered by a team of collaborating researchers working in watershed modelling, marine biochemistry and toxicology, and biodiversity.
- It is intended that the coarse screening tool developed could also be used by planners, resource managers, and municipal engineers to gain an appreciation of current conditions in their area of influence, and to predict the effects of proposed land use changes.

**CEF CONSULTANTS:** Norval Collins reported the following:

- The Champlain Institute has been dissolved and the charter has been surrendered. Champlain's remaining funds (approximately \$4,500) were given to the Council of Maritime Premiers and are being held in trust to be used as seed money to help create a similar initiative.
- ClimAdapt, a network of private sector companies in Nova Scotia, continues to stay on the leading edge of adaptation to climate change. The ClimAdapt project, Climate-SMART, led by Dillon Consulting, is attracting attention nationally. The project, with HRM as a partner, will be looking at building adaptation into the financial planning process for the municipality, with specific toolkits developed for the various departments within the city. The project also incorporates education and outreach.
- CEF is undertaking two Strategic Environmental Impact Assessments (SEA). One is being done in conjunction with CBCL Ltd and incorporates climate change elements in a review of options in response to coastal erosion issues at North Rustico. The other SEA involves a review of the Misaine Bank area as a potential new area for exploration for oil and gas.

**GEONET TECHNOLOGIES:** Carl Brydon reported the following:

- GeoNet Technologies is involved in a five-year research and development initiative that will culminate in the marketing, nationally and internationally, of an integrated solution for risk assessment and mitigation, related to coastal processes such as sea level rise and storminess. The project is led by the College of Geographic Sciences (COGS); CARIS is also a partner.
- The Coastal Decision Support System (DSS) will include modules such as water and weather modelling, significant storm identification, DEM modeling, geographic database building, flood extent and depth modeling, flood impact assessment, erosion hazard modeling, erosion impact assessment, dynamic storm modeling, and adaptation strategies.
- This initiative is two years from completion. A commercialization phase will follow.
- For information on GeoNet Technologies and the Coastal DSS, access <http://www.geonet-tech.com>.

## ***UPDATES ON ACZISC RELATED PROGRAMS***

**COASTAL ZONE CANADA ASSOCIATION AND CONFERENCES:** Larry Hildebrand reported that he was invited to Beijing in April 2005, in his role as Vice President-Liaison of the CZCA, as a guest of the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences (CRAES), the research arm of the State Environmental Protection Agency, to negotiate an Agreement between CZCA and CRAES for enhanced cooperation in integrated coastal and ocean management (ICOM). Discussions were initiated at the Coastal Zone Canada 2004 conference in St. John's. The result of the discussions in Beijing is a draft LOA that will focus initially on CZCA assistance in the design and delivery of the 1<sup>st</sup> Coastal Zone China conference in 2007. Further areas of cooperation, potentially in areas of interest to ACZISC members, can be accommodated within the LOA.

Mike Butler reported that Bob Thwaites had suggested that the ACZISC organize an interactive panel for CZC 2006, similar to the panel that was organized for CZC 2004 in St. John's. CZC 2006 will be held in July 2006 in Tuktoyaktuk, NWT. Members agreed with this suggestion.

***ACTION 45.21: Members to notify the Secretariat if they are interested in participating in an ACZISC panel at CZC 2006***

On behalf of the ACZISC, Mike thanked Grant Gardner, chair of the CZC 2004 Organizing Committee, and the other Conference organizers for sponsoring the ACZISC Meeting held in St. John's in conjunction with the Conference. He added that this was greatly appreciated in light of the ACZISC's financial difficulties.

**GULF OF MAINE COUNCIL ON THE ENVIRONMENT / GLOBAL PROGRAMME OF ACTION**

**COALITION FOR THE GULF OF MAINE:** Larry Hildebrand reported that the GoM Working Group would be meeting on 13-14 June 2005 in Exeter, NH. A Forum on Climate Change will follow the meeting on 16 June.

**OCEAN MANAGEMENT RESEARCH NETWORK:** Mike Butler reported that the 2005 National Conference of the Ocean Management Research Network is scheduled for 29 September - 1 October 2005 in Ottawa - see [http://www.omrn.ca/eng\\_conferences.html](http://www.omrn.ca/eng_conferences.html). 20 June is the deadline for submitting abstracts.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

ACZISC Meeting #45 adjourned at 1630 hrs on Thursday, 19 May 2005.

<b>Canadian Hydrographic Service - Atlantic Region</b>	
<b>Planned Publications 2005/2006</b>	<p><b>New Charts:</b></p> <p>4866 Botwood 1:30000 with 1:10000 inset  5024 Nanaksaluik Islands to Fenstone Tickle Island 1:200000  5056 Khikkertarsoak (North Island) to Morhardt Point 1:100000</p> <p><b>New Editions of Existing Charts:</b></p> <p>4114 Campobello Island 1:20000  4115 Passamaquoddy Bay and St. Croix River 1:50000  4116 Approaches to Saint John 1:60000  4201 Halifax Harbour to Bedford Basin 1:10000  4202 Halifax Harbour Point Pleasant to Bedford Basin 1:10000  4306 Strait of Canso and Southern Approaches 1:25000  4320 Egg Island to West Ironbound 1:145000  4437 Pictou Harbour 1:12000  4460 Charlottetown Harbour 1:12000  4587 Mortier Bay 1:12000  4617 Red Island to Pinchgut Point 1:37500 (to 1:40000)  4841 St. Mary's Bay to Argentia 1:60000  4848 Holyrood and Long Pond 1:25000  4912 Miramichi 1:25000  5051 Nanasuk Island to Calf, Cow and Bull Islands 1:60000  5052 Seniarlit Islands to Nain 1:60000  5070 Satasoak Island to Akuliakatak Peninsula 1:25000</p> <p><b>Chart Update Patches:</b></p> <p>4459 Summerside  4583 St Julien Island to Hooping Harbour  4616 Burin Inlet</p> <p><b>Sailing Directions Diagrams:</b>  Black Tickle, Corner Brook Public Wharf, Makkovik, Petty Harbour, Port Saunders</p>
<b>Planned Field Activities 2005/2006</b>	<p><b>Oceans Action Plan:</b>  50 survey days planned in Gulf of St. Lawrence. In cooperation with NRCan.</p> <p><b>Law of the Sea Baselines:</b>  Investigate rocks, landfalls, etc. on an opportunity basis to improve existing baseline coverage. Tenders for offshore surveys pending.</p> <p><b>National Initiatives Fund – Search and Rescue Labrador:</b>  Install, monitor and collect additional tide gauge data for Cape Kakkiviak, Cape Chidley, Hebron and Kangalsiorvik Fiord.   Multibeam Labrador corridor survey from Okak Bay/Cape Mugford area north to Cape Chidley.</p> <p><b>Revisory Surveys:</b> Various locations, primarily in Newfoundland and Labrador</p> <p><b>Newfoundland and Labrador Cost Recovery Surveys</b> (resources permitting):  4841 Placentia Bay, Argentia Project Request. CCG, NWP  4831 Fortune Bay, Pools Cove Project Request. Aquaculture sites Science-Oceans  4857 Cape Freels, Project Request. Science-NWAFRC/Memorial University</p> <p><b>Notre Dame Bay Charting Advisory Committee:</b>  Conduct survey investigations on an opportunity basis</p>