

ACZISC



ATLANTIC COASTAL ZONE
INFORMATION STEERING COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF ACZISC MEETING #67

Date: Wednesday and Thursday, 19-20 September 2012

Location: Room 228, Hugh John Flemming Forestry Centre, 1350 Regent St,
Fredericton, New Brunswick

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

Name	Affiliation	Telephone #
Robert Capozzi ¹	New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government	506-453-8946
Simon Courtenay	Fisheries and Oceans Canada at the Canadian Rivers Institute, UNB	506-452-6212
Adam Fancy	ACZISC Secretariat, Science Horizons Intern	902-494-7452
Michel Goguen ¹	Hydrography (Atlantic), Canadian Hydrographic Service, Department of Fisheries & Oceans	902-426-3497
Tim Hall ¹	Oceans, Habitat and Species at Risk Branch, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region	902-426-4116
Russell Henry ¹	New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries	506-453-2666
Robert Hughes	New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government	506-457-4844
Donald Killorn	Executive Director, Eastern Charlotte Waterways Inc.	506-456-6001
Vladimir Kostylev ¹	Coastal and Shelf Studies, Natural Resources Canada	902-426-8319
Gail Moser	Director General, Policy, Planning, Advocacy and Coordination, ACOA	506-452-3155
Kyle Penney	National Defence, Formation Environment (alternate for Carol Lee Giffin ¹)	902-721-8622
Jean-Pierre Savard	Ouranos	514-282-6464

PARTICIPANTS (continued)

Name	Affiliation	Telephone #
Margo Sheppard	New Brunswick Nature Trust	506-457-2398
Andy Sherin	ACZISC Secretariat	902-494-6184
Erin Taylor	PEI Department of Environment, Energy and Forestry	902-368-6111
Jean-Claude Vautour	Public Works and Government Services Canada (alternate for Bill Blight ¹)	506-851-2474
Sean Weseloh McKeane ¹	Secretariat, Provincial Oceans Network, Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture	902-424-5830
Alexi Westcott	ACZISC Secretariat	902-494-7162

Additional contact information for ACZISC Members is available on the ACZISC's [website](#).

1. *WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS*

Andy Sherin, Director, ACZISC Secretariat, called ACZISC Meeting #67 to order at 0900 hrs on Wednesday, 19 September 2012. He welcomed members and guests. A roundtable introduction of all of the participants followed.

2. *Recap on ACZISC Strategic Planning: ACZISC Membership*

- The ACZISC has been working on strategic planning, a process that started in January 2011 at the ACZISC Meeting #62 in St. John's. Progression of the plan moved in stages, at each meeting. It is time to finalize the ACZISC Strategic Plan 2012-2017. The ACZISC Secretariat asked for final feedback on the plan, especially around the actions concerning membership.

- It was decided to change the reference to 'agencies' in the first paragraph of the Strategic Plan to 'entities' and reverse the order of the first two sentences. With this change those present at the meeting agreed with the Strategic Plan. Those present at the meeting also agreed with the strategies and actions in the Strategic Plan regarding ACZISC membership. The Strategic Plan will be circulated with this minor change and ACZISC Members will be given a week to suggest any additional changes before it is made final.

- There was discussion around the ACZISC letterhead and those present thought that it would be better to take names off the letterhead, leaving only the member organizations and not the representing individuals. Those present also agreed that the ACZISC member organizations should be listed on the home page of the website and that another page should detail which member groups support financially and those that contribute in kind.

- In response to a question that arose at the last ACZISC meeting #66, those present agreed to add a non-governmental organization representative to the advisory committee as long as they are members of the committee and have a good understanding of the organization.

ACTION 67.1 *Those present agreed to accept the Strategic Plan with one revision.*

ACTION 67.2 *Members to forward suggestions or comments regarding the Strategic Plan to the Secretariat within one week of the revision being distributed.*

ACTION 67.3 *Those present agreed to remove names from the ACZISC letterhead, leaving member organizations.*

ACTION 67.4 *Those present agreed to move ahead with Strategic Plan actions regarding membership.*

ACTION 67.5 *Create a new page on website listing members who support financially and those that contribute in kind.*

ACTION 67.6 *List members on the main page of the website.*

ACTION 67.7 *Those present agreed to add a non-governmental organization representative to the advisory committee as long as they are members of the committee and have a good understanding of the organization.*

3. **AGENDA and MINUTES**

The provisional agenda for ACZISC Meeting #76 was approved. The draft minutes of ACZISC Meeting #66 (16-17 May 2012, St. John's) were reviewed and approved. The final [minutes](#) are posted online.

4. **STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS**

The action items from Meeting #66 were reviewed by Andy Sherin. All of the action items have been completed or are in progress.

5. **UPCOMING ACZISC MEETINGS**

The upcoming ACZISC meetings are scheduled for:

- **16-17 January 2013:** Meeting #68, Halifax, NS
- **29-30 May 2013:** ACZISC Meeting #69, Charlottetown, PEI
- **11-12 September 2013:** Meeting #70, St. John's, NL
- **15-16 January 2014:** Meeting #71, Fredericton, NB

6. **ACZISC ADMINISTRATION**

ACZISC MEMBERSHIP: James Risdon is the new executive director for the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Coalition on Sustainability, and representative for the ACZISC. Sean Weseloh McKeane with the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture is now a representative for Nova Scotia. Vladimir Kostylev is the new member

representative from Natural Resources Canada. Carl Dufour is no longer with Parks Canada, the ACZISC is now looking for a new representative.

ACZISC BUDGET, FINANCIAL REPORT: The ACZISC budget April 2012 – March 2013 was distributed and reviewed. Some members had already made contributions, to which Andy Sherin noted and thanked.

-Newsletter sponsorship: Andy reintroduced the idea of selling each of the ACZISC's monthly newsletters to a sponsor, as he had at the last ACZISC Meeting in Newfoundland. Participants at the meeting suggested that ACZISC Secretariat to work on a plan for finding sponsors for the Coastal Update Newsletter, to be presented at the next meeting.

ACTION 67.8 ACZISC Secretariat to write to the New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government as a follow up from the last Fredericton meeting.

ACTION 67.9 ACZISC Secretariat to work on a plan for finding sponsors for the Coastal Update Newsletter, to be presented at the next meeting.

ACTION 67.10 ACZISC Secretariat to request the Chair to call a meeting of the ACZISC Association Board of Directors.

ACTION 67.11 Members to expedite payment of their 2012-2013 contributions to the ACZISC.

7. PRESENTATION and DISCUSSION

- **Southwest New Brunswick Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Planning (MRP) Initiative**, Russell Henry, New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries.

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

8. COINATLANTIC UPDATES, Science Horizons Intern

The COINAtlantic Search Utility and Geocontent Generator

-The current [COINAtlantic Search Utility \(CSU\)](#) searches based on one metadata catalogue, the Geoconnections GeoPortal and is now not working as well as it did upon implementation. The ACZISC Secretariat is working on the next phase for the CSU that will be based on the Google search engine, searching for geo-referenced information anywhere on the internet. The release of this next version of the CSU is behind schedule and is expected soon.

-The participants were given a quick reminder about the [COINAtlantic Geocontent Generator](#) (CGG), how it works and why it was developed. The CGG allows users to publish geo-referenced KML (keyhole markup language) files to the internet that include text metadata, and a geositemap. The CGG is a free on-line utility that allows users to generate and publish geospatial polygons on-line that will be found by the Google search engine. It is intended to be a simple-to-use tool that will allow non-

specialists to allow others to find and view their information in the new version of the CSU. Results can also be viewed in Google maps and Google earth. A [CGG tutorial](#) is available on the COINAtlantic website.

Summer Students

-The ACZISC Secretariat was successful in an application to the Canada Summer Jobs program for two summer students. Fiona Clifford worked as an intern for the summer, as part of the Dalhousie School for Resource and Environmental Studies (SRES) Master of Resource and Environmental Management's (MREM) program's required summer internship. Fiona focused on a research project on successes and challenges around information sharing and how it is applied to Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management. The project included case studies of four initiatives in Atlantic Canada. Kai Boggild was the second student working with the Secretariat for the summer; he is an undergraduate science student at Dalhousie University. Kai's work focused on the COINAtlantic website, among other duties he completed work on multiple new theme pages for the website, and the publication pages for each theme.

Science Horizons Intern:

- Adam Fancy is currently the Science Horizons Intern with the Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee Secretariat, (until 31 March, 2013). His role with the ACZISC is to assist in further developing the COINAtlantic Internet Visibility Initiative. This initiative is built upon COINAtlantic's Chain of Information Access, which starts with the data providing organizations with well-managed silos of information that is accessible via the internet. This is then made searchable in standard internet search-based tools and finally viewed in a web-based map application. He is also responsible for the day-to-day operations of COINAtlantic, which entails conducting research and prepare reports that advance information management practices of scientific and spatial data providing organisations.

-Adam has held numerous positions within academia, the federal government and also consulting on issues that deal with the coastal zone. His education includes a BA in Political Science, Advanced Graduate Diploma in Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management, and a Master in Marine Studies (Fisheries Resource Management) from Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Progress report:

-The progress report is based on the new strategic plan. Andy asked if participants liked the approach. There was a positive response from participants. It was agreed that it would be helpful to have some sort of more interactive approach to gain feedback on the website, possibly through feedback boxes or 'like' buttons. It was also suggested that more information from Google Analytics be presented at the meetings.

ACTION 67.12 Members to investigate within their organizations candidates that might work with the ACZISC as COINAtlantic Project Manager and contact the Secretariat.

ACTION 67.13 Members to forward suggestions or comments regarding the Progress Report the Secretariat.

ACTION 67.14 Develop a more interactive approach for website visitors to give feedback.

ACTION 67.15 In conjunction with the progress Report, Have a more detailed report from Google Analytics for the COINAtlantic website for the next meeting.

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

Andy Sherin invited participants to provide an overview of programs and activities within their jurisdiction related to ICOM, geomatics and coastal mapping. He requested that notes be provided to the Secretariat to assist with the preparation of accurate minutes. Minutes will be posted in the [Meetings](#) section of the website.

ACTION 67.16 Participants to email notes re their roundtable presentation to Alexi Westcott at ACZISC@dal.ca.

NEW BRUNSWICK:

Robert Capози, Department of Environment and Local Government, reported the following:

- Continuing work around the New Brunswick Coastal Areas Protection Policy from 2003. This includes considerations around development around the coast, coastal flooding risks, and keeping people out of the flood risk zone. Review of the wetlands decision making framework is an ongoing project.
- Coastal Areas Protection Policy: <http://www.gnb.ca/0009/0371/0002/Coastal-E.pdf>.
- Politique de protection des zones côtières: <http://www.gnb.ca/0009/0371/0002/Coastal-F.pdf>.

Russell Henry, Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries, gave a presentation, see section #7 above.

Robert Hughes, Department of Environment and Local Government, gave a presentation, see section #10 below.

FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA:

Michel Goguen, Canadian Hydrographic Service, reported the following:

- Bathymetric database loading is progressing well. Once loaded the intent is to serve gridded data sets to the public.

- New approach in bathymetric surveys is to leverage the LIDAR technology in the near shore. These surveys are then supplemented using interferometric and multibeam surveys. (i.e. Mahone Bay, Placentia Bay)
- There is a trial under way in British Columbia to acquire soundings the near shore utilizing satellite imagery.
- Development of a national planning tool is underway. The objective is to determine what survey resolution and what navigational products are needed where. Resources will be pooled nationally to address priorities.
- CHS is always looking for partners to address bathymetric gaps.

Tim Hall, DFO Maritimes, reported the following:

- Work on the St Ann's Bank Area of Interest (AOI) is continuing - <http://www.mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/e0010385>. Work is now being completed on boundaries to be realised in November. Designation is still more than a year away.
- Funding from the Health of the Oceans initiative finished in 2012, however there is a request for additional funding in progress.
- Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management (ESSIM) Initiative is now officially completed. Rigorous evaluations by a third party, the Stakeholder Advisory Committee, and internally based on the United Nations Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management guidelines has been worked on and will be released in the next 2-3 months. The focus now is to look at bioregional planning for the whole bioregion of the Scotian Shelf, from Cape Breton to the Bay of Fundy. This work is starting with a bioregional risk assessment.

Simon Courtenay, Fisheries and Oceans Canada at the Canadian Rivers Institute, reported the following:

- Canadian Water Network's Canadian Watershed Research Consortium includes five watershed research nodes; a joint meeting for all nodes will take place 17-18 January 2013.
- The Saint John Harbour - Environmental Monitoring Partnership (SJH-EMP) samples invertebrates (including benthic invertebrates and caged mussels), fish and contaminants year-round in Saint John Harbour. This is a collaboration with Huntsman Marine Science Centre and the Port of Saint John and involves graduate students.
- Northumberland Strait Environmental Monitoring Partnership (NorSt-EMP) met in June and December 2012 to review progress and plans of Mike van den Heuvel's research team (UPEI/UNB/INRS-U.Quebec). As well in fall 2012, NorSt-EMP co-hosted a national workshop on terrestrial impacts on coastal fisheries with Rob Stephenson's NSERC Canadian Fisheries Research Network.
- Climate change is becoming an area of interest at DFO Science, therefore Simon's work may be moving away from the biological effects of contaminants, but will be ramping up work around climate change.

ATLANTIC CANADA OPPORTUNITIES AGENCY: Gail Moser reported the following:

- This is the first time that Gail Moser has attended an ACZISC Meeting. ACOA is in the process of determining who would be a good replacement for Don Hogan, who was a member of the ACZISC but has now retired.

NATIONAL DEFENCE, FORMATION ENVIRONMENT: Kyle Penney reported the following:

- Operational Management Plan: will be completing an update of the management plan document and completing a new data management tool to use for making decisions on training in the Operating Areas. This will enable sustainable management of Operating Areas for MARLANT (Maritime Forces Atlantic) use.
- Follow up on a study to determine ambient noise levels and noise levels from surface weapon firing on nesting shore birds: This year the results of recorded noise compared to ambient will be used to determine if there are any behavioural effects on shore bird populations at various distances, the closest ocean range is 8 km from the nearest land.
- Ongoing work to collect underwater biological Operating Areas to generate a background database. Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC) is working with MARLANT on this.

NOVA SCOTIA: Sean Weseloh McKeane, reported the following:

- The Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture is in the midst of moving its office outside of Halifax, and the turnover is near completion. The Aquaculture office is moving to Shelburne. The fisheries office is moving to Digby. These moves are planned to be complete by the end of the calendar year. The department is also going through a hiring process now, and are working with diminished personnel capacity. The Coastal Strategy is still being worked on and does not have a release date.

EASTERN CHARLOTTE WATERWAYS: Donald Killorn, reported the following:

- Eastern Charlotte Waterways is planning work on monitoring through shoreline surveys, including shellfish. The Atlantic Ecosystem Initiative program funding proposals are due this fall and are being evaluated differently than in past years. Information management for the Eastern Charlotte Waterways is currently an area of concern, some of the organization's information is stored better ways than others. Eastern Charlotte Waterways is planning to work with the ACZISC Secretariat through the COINAtlantic Internet Visibility Initiative in the coming months.

NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA: Vladimir Kostylev, reported the following:

- Don Forbes, a past ACZISC representative for NRCan, retired last week but will be staying on in an emeritus capacity. Updates for the NRCan coastal sensitivity map are in progress.

ACZISC SECRETARIAT: Andy Sherin, reported the following:

- Andy Sherin briefly presented 'Canada's Arctic Spatial Data Infrastructure and Marine Cadastre', by José m`Bala Surveyor General Branch, NRCan. This presentation is posted [online](#) and was part of Coastal Zone Canada Conference 2012.
- Andy noted that the CoastGIS2013 website is available at <http://www.coastgis2013.ca>. The conference is scheduled for the June 2013. Conference flyers were distributed in the meeting folders. The 30th November 2012 is the deadline for workshop proposals, and the 15th January 2013 is the deadline for abstracts.
- Andy Sherin is editor of the International Coastal Atlas Network (ICAN) Newsletter. The Second Issue of the newsletter (Volume 1, Number 2, September 2012) is now available. The newsletter includes articles on the Irish Integrated Marine Plan, Activities of the ICAN Technical Team, and activities of ICAN member organizations including ICAN's newest member, Scotland's Marine Atlas - http://dusk.geo.orst.edu/ICAN_EEA/ICAN_Newsletter_September_2012.pdf.

PUBLIC WORKS AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES CANADA: Jean-Claude Vautour, reported the following:

- Work on mapping of some major harbours is ongoing. Orthophoto maps (geo-referenced) have been done for some harbours. Reorganization within the department is expected in the next 2-3 years, leaving uncertainties moving forward, and the probability of contracting out work.

ACZISC SECRETARIAT: Adam Fancy, Science Horizons Intern, see section #8 above.

NEW BRUNSWICK NATURE TRUST: Margo Sheppard, reported the following:

- The NB Nature Trust is a charitable land trust dedicated to the acquisition of private lands in order to ensure that biological diversity is protected in perpetuity. Their main goals have been to protect areas in New Brunswick that are ecologically significant, and to educate the people of New Brunswick about the province's natural heritage and the importance of land conservation.
 - To date the NB Nature Trust has protected 15 entire coastal islands in NB, and they are looking at acquiring another. The NB Nature Trust include a map indicating where their nature preserves are located on their homepage: www.naturetrust.nb.ca.
- The judge of the roundtable was Michel Goguen and the winner was Sean Weseloh McKeane.

10. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION

- **National Coastal Assessment for Climate Change**, by Jean-Pierre Savard, Ouranos.
- **Atlantic Climate Change Adaptation Solutions in New Brunswick**, by Robert Hughes, New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government.

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

11. ACZISC NRCAN ADAPTION PROPOSAL

- Andy Sherin shared a short presentation on the ACZISC Secretariat's recent project proposal in response to Natural Resources Canada's "Enhancing Competitiveness in a Changing Climate" call for proposals issued in July 2012.

14. ADJOURNMENT

ACZISC Meeting #67 adjourned at 1200 hrs on Thursday, 20 September 2012.