

# **THE COASTAL ZONE CANADA ASSOCIATION: THE FIRST TEN YEARS, 1994-2004**

**Peter Ricketts<sup>1</sup>**  
**Barry Jones<sup>2</sup>**  
**Larry Hildebrand<sup>3</sup>**  
**Brian Nicholls<sup>4</sup>**

## **Abstract**

The Coastal Zone Canada Association (CZCA) was formed in 1993 to promote Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management (ICOM) in Canada and the world. The initial goal of the Association was to organise a major international coastal zone conference. The first Coastal Zone Canada (CZC) conference was held in Halifax in 1994. Since then, the CZCA has taken on the role of building that first conference into a series of biennial conferences, and further CZC conferences have been held in 1996 in Rimouski, PQ, 1998 in Victoria BC, 2000 in Saint John NB, 2002 in Hamilton ON, and 2004 in St. John's NL. As the CZCA celebrates ten years of CZC conferences in Canada, this paper reflects on the contributions of the Association to ICOM. Each of the conference statements, publications, toolkits, and calls for action have helped advance the discussion about ICOM in Canada, and in particular the importance of community-based management as a fundamental approach to ensuring the success of ICOM policies and processes. Through its publications and the influence of its members, the CZCA has played its part in raising the profile of ICOM in Canada and internationally, and influencing the legislative and public policy agenda in Canada. As the Association looks back on its first ten years of existence, it can be proud of its achievements but also cognisant of the work yet to be done and the areas where progress has been less than satisfactory. In looking forward to the next decade, the need for the Association and its conferences is greater than ever as Canada seeks to implement the fundamental elements of its Oceans Act, including the Oceans Strategy and Action Plan, and build upon its international reputation in ICOM.

## **1.0 Rekindling the Flame of Coastal Zone Management in Canada**

In May 1987, in a hotel bar in Seattle, Washington, a group of Canadian participants at the U.S. Coastal Zone '87 conference were discussing the state of coastal zone management in Canada. Then someone asked why it was that the only time Canadian coastal

---

<sup>1</sup> President, Okanagan University College and President of the CZCA, 2002-2004.

<sup>2</sup> Retired; formerly Director, Sustainable Development, New Brunswick Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, and President of the CZCA, 1998-2002.

<sup>3</sup> Manager, Sustainable Communities and Ecosystems Division, Environment Canada, Atlantic Region, and Chair/President of the CZCA, 1996-1998.

<sup>4</sup> Retired; formerly Head, Marine Assessment and Liaison Division, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dartmouth NS, and Chair of the CZCA, 1994-1996.

management practitioners and academics got together in a professional environment was in the United States. Not only did this raise the age old issue of Canadians looking to our southern neighbour for leadership in critical areas of national and international policy, but it also highlighted the relative lack of progress towards coastal management in Canada.

At that time, the one and only Canadian national coastal management conference had been held back in 1978 in Victoria, BC. That conference, the Canadian Shore Management Symposium, had been organised by the Canadian Council of Resource and Environment Ministers (CCREM) and the focus was on Shore Zone Management in order to incorporate those landlocked Provinces that did not have ocean coasts, but had many thousands of kilometres of lake shorelines and watersheds to manage. That conference had been an important watershed for coastal management in Canada with its resulting ten principles, which became known as the “Victoria Principles” (CCREM, 1978). These included such important principles as the need to adopt a co-operative approach to management, co-ordination of policies and programs across all levels and departments of government, recognition of the interrelatedness of all coastal activities, the role of information systems to support decision-making, and the importance of public access and awareness. However, since those heady days when coastal zone management was in its infancy in Canada (spurred on by the increased environmental consciousness of the 1960s and ‘70s, and the enactment of the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act in 1972), interest in coastal management faded at the federal level in Canada and lacked any significant motivation at the provincial level. A Shore Zone Directorate was established by the federal government in 1980, but was disbanded in 1983.

From the mid-1980s through 1994, there were flickers of hope as the Federal Government of Canada attempted to promote the sustainable development and use of Canada’s marine resources through a highly collaborative federal inter-departmental initiative known as ‘Marine Environmental Quality’ (MEQ). Operating under the auspices of the Interdepartmental Committee on Oceans (ICO) and co-led by Environment Canada and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), the MEQ Initiative produced a ‘Framework for the Management of Marine Environmental Quality within the Federal Government’ (ICO, 1992) and a ‘Federal MEQ Action Plan’ (ICO, 1994) that set out a strategy for the management of marine environmental quality in Canada. Consisting of an overall objective, a set of guiding principles, and a series of specific goals and related actions, the Federal Framework and Action Plan defined inter-departmental activities related to the marine environment that would provide for the overall coordination of related policies and programs of the federal government. The next step in 1994 was to develop a ‘national’ MEQ framework and action plan as a cooperative effort involving provinces, territories, First Nations, industry, universities and the public. Unfortunately, inter-departmental turf wars over the proposed transfer of resources during a major federal government program review exercise all but eliminated further discussion and collaborative effort, and the MEQ initiative was relegated to oblivion without ever moving beyond the federal government or being put into action.

Despite these initiatives, there had really been no sustained effort to build upon the achievements of the 1978 Victoria conference, or to rekindle the flame of enthusiasm for a

national approach to coastal and shoreline management in Canada. Surely, we thought, we should be meeting in Canada to discuss these important matters, as well as attending major international events such as the biennial U.S. Coastal Zone conferences. A number of the Canadian participants left the Coastal Zone '87 conference with a determination to address this problem, and to rekindle the fires of a national debate over coastal management in Canada.

More formal discussions on holding a major coastal zone management conference in Canada began in 1989, at Coastal Zone '89 in Charleston, South Carolina, and continued at Coastal Zone '91 in Long Beach, California. These discussions involved meetings with Orville Magoon, who played a leading role in the U.S. Coastal Zone conference series at that time. The outcome was a decision to submit a formal proposal to the U.S. organizers to hold Coastal Zone '95 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. This was done but, despite a credible proposal, the U.S. organizers decided that they did not want to hold a conference in the series outside of the U.S., at least for the time being. Having put considerable effort into the proposal for Coastal Zone '95, and keen to hold a major coastal zone management conference in Canada, a Halifax-based organizing group decided to stay in business and plan for an independent conference to be held in Canada in 1994. At this time the Coastal Zone Canada Association did not exist and there was no specific intention that the proposed conference would be the first of an ongoing series.

## **2.0 “Where there’s Smoke.....”: Planning for the First Coastal Zone Canada Conference**

The organizing committee for the Coastal Zone Canada '94 (CZC '94) Conference, as it became called, was established in 1992. It had 20 regular members, representing some 13 agencies and institutions, plus another 19 members at large. The committee attracted some 26 Canadian and 5 international sponsors. One of the inspirations for CZC '94 was the recognition of the need to maintain the international momentum that had been generated for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in recent years: the conference was seen as the next step on the continuum of international developments designed to discuss and debate key issues and approaches, as well as to advance guidance and direction in the field. From the outset, it was decided that the event should involve all of the stakeholders in the coastal zone including, most importantly, those who live and work there. Thus, in addition to focusing on the ‘upper end’ of the management process (*i.e.*, international agreements, legislation, policies, and institutional arrangements), it was decided that it should emphasise the local or community level application of coastal zone management where all stakeholders come together in a collaborative manner. For this reason, the theme of *Cooperation in the Coastal Zone* was chosen for the conference.

### *2.1 Founding the Coastal Zone Canada Association*

During the early deliberations of the CZC '94 Conference Coordinating Committee it soon became apparent that a formal conference “umbrella” organization was required to which the conference committee would report. The need for this organizational structure

stemmed from a number of factors, largely financial, such as being able to manage money from multiple sources and issue tax receipts for contributions towards the conference. As a result, the Coastal Zone Canada Association (CZCA) was formed and incorporated under the Societies Act of Nova Scotia on June 7, 1993 (note that subsequently the Association would be incorporated nationally) with the stated objectives of:

- A. Promoting the appreciation, awareness and understanding of the uniqueness and value of the coastal areas of Canada; and
- B. Providing a forum for the exchange of ideas and information concerning the sustainable use and development of coastal areas of Canada through meetings, conferences, documentation and other means.

Some twenty persons were named as the first Directors of the new Association. During its first year, the Association focussed its activities on one project - the organization of CZC '94. At its first Annual General Meeting, held on May 12, 1994 at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography (BIO), a new Board of Directors was elected, the majority having served on the first Board, and the first officers of the new Association were appointed. Appendix 1 lists the names of those individuals who have served as officers of the Coastal Zone Canada Association since its formation to the present. By courtesy of DFO (Scotia-Fundy Region), the Association was provided office space at BIO, where it has maintained its presence ever since<sup>5</sup>. The Association remains extremely grateful to DFO and BIO for providing this critical support.

It was agreed that the membership of the Association should be as broad as possible, and that all registrants at the CZC '94 conference would automatically become members, with a small portion of each registration fee being applied as a membership fee for two years until the next CZC conference. This membership structure has been maintained ever since, although individuals (such as those who are unable to attend the CZC conference) may also join by paying a nominal fee. These fees go to cover the costs of running the CZCA Secretariat, holding Board meetings, and supporting the activities of the Association. The Association also provides a \$5000 loan to each CZC conference organising committee, which is repayable from the proceeds of the conference fees. In later years, the Association approved Membership Guidelines that permit organisations as well as individuals to join.

## 2.2 *Coastal Zone Canada '94 Conference, Halifax*

The CZCA's first conference was held on September 20-23, 1994, at the World Trade and Convention Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Over 700 people from 52 countries representing the full cross section of coastal zone interests were in attendance. A highly respected Canadian in the environmental field, Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Under-Secretary General, United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), served as the Conference President. Speakers during the opening plenary session included the Honourable Brian Tobin,

---

<sup>5</sup> Coastal Zone Canada Association Secretariat, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, P.O. Box 1006, Dartmouth, NS, Canada B2Y 4A2; Ph.: (902) 429-9497; Fax : (902) 429-9491; E-mail: [coastalz@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:coastalz@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca); Website: <http://www.czca-azcc.org>.

Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, and Dr. Arthur May, President of Memorial University of Newfoundland. The conference was structured into 5 pre-conference workshops, 49 technical paper sessions, 23 interactive workshops, and 14 round table sessions. Other features included: a three-day trade show; a public meeting on the subject “Getting by or Getting Better? Atlantic Communities in the Wake of the Fishery Crisis”; and several associated workshops and conferences organized by local organizations. The results of all sessions were summarized and brought forward to a panel of experts that sat throughout the conference and presented a list of actions at the final plenary session.

### 2.3 *Outputs from the Coastal Zone Canada ‘94 Conference*

CZC ‘94 resulted in the production of five volumes of technical papers, plus a sixth volume presenting the collective results of the conference workshops, roundtable discussions, plenary sessions, and keynote addresses (Wells and Ricketts, 1994, 1996). A separate publication contained the *Conference Statement and Call for Action (CZCA, 1996)*. These publications constituted the first comprehensive set of Canadian proceedings on ICZM, and they received wide distribution throughout Canada and internationally. In particular, the *Conference Statement and Call for Action* provided a succinct summary of the need for changes to coastal zone management activities. The Call for Action incorporated a series of recommendations framed around four key themes:

- Empowering local communities through community-based management,
- Strengthening coastal economies and dealing effectively with poverty,
- Recognising the rights and interests of indigenous peoples, and
- Integrating traditional knowledge with conventional science.

Among all of the themes and priorities that emerged from this international event and summarized in this document, three in particular stand out as essential for the continuing development of cooperation in the coastal zone:

- A. *Cooperation Process*: The need to expand our understanding of cooperation as a process, and of the structure that makes this process work.
- B. *Community-based management*: The need to build cooperative management processes from the ground up; so that coastal communities become partners with resource users and others in the management of the resource, and so that effective mechanisms for problem solving and conflict resolution are available at the local, regional, national and international levels.
- C. *Empowerment*: The need to provide all partners in the coastal zone with the knowledge, skill, information, and other resources needed to play their full part in cooperative management processes.

In order to develop effective coastal zone management practises based upon these issues, it was recognized that the manner in which agencies, organizations and governments have interacted in the past needed to undergo change. This is reflected in the closing comment of the Conference President in her address at the Final Plenary Session in which she noted, “This conference is all about a change in mindset”.

## 2.4 Early Development of the Coastal Zone Canada Association

The opportunity was taken to hold a special meeting of the Coastal Zone Canada Association during CZC '94. A small but enthusiastic group of conference participants, including representatives from other countries, attended this second meeting of the Association. It was suggested, and several motions were passed reflecting the views of the attendees, that the Association should become a permanent organization with a national focus within an international context, and with membership open to all nationalities. Interest was also expressed that future CZC conferences should be held, it being suggested that these be at two-year intervals, and in alternate years to U.S. Coastal Zone conferences.

Following CZC '94, the Coastal Zone Canada Association received expressions of interest from two organizations to host a second Coastal Zone Canada Conference in 1996. The first was from the Marine Life Sanctuaries Society of British Columbia, while the second was from the scientific and civil communities of the Greater Rimouski area of Québec. The Association subsequently selected the Rimouski proposal, and it was stipulated that: (1) a Director of the Association should serve on the conference organizing committee; (2) the conference should represent the full cross-section of coastal zone interests and be multidisciplinary in scope; and (3) that it should include a plenary session on the follow-up to the recommendations of CZC '94.

On June 23, 1995, the second Annual General Meeting of the Association was held. Among the items of business was a consideration of the future role of the Association, and a document on the "*Future Role and Activities of the CZC Association*" was presented by Larry Hildebrand to guide the deliberations. There was agreement that the Coastal Zone Canada Association, which was originally formed for the purpose of organizing CZC '94, should continue to exist. While only one formal decision was made at this time (*i.e.*, that the finances for CZC '96 and all future Coastal Zone Canada conferences be managed separately from the Association), it was agreed to consider the key questions about the role and activities of the Association in more detail at another time.

The third Annual General Meeting of the Association, held on June 25, 1996, was memorable for the fact that it was announced that expressions of interest had been received and accepted for two further conferences in the CZC series: CZC '98 to be held in Victoria, British Columbia and CZC 2000 in Saint John, New Brunswick. It was noted that the Association had continued to promote the results of CZC '94, including the presentation of papers outlining the results of the conference at several events such as the 1995 conference of the Canadian Coastal Science and Engineering Association (CC-SEA) in Halifax, and the U.S. Coastal Zone '95 Conference in Tampa, Florida. It was also noted that discussions had been held with the CC-SEA leading to enhanced liaison in the holding of the conferences of the two bodies, whereby the CZCA would hold special sessions at the CC-SEA Canadian Coastal Conferences (in odd-numbered years), and the CC-SEA would hold special sessions at the CZC conferences (in even-numbered years).

## 2.5 Coastal Zone Canada '96 Conference, Rimouski, Québec

CZC '96 was held from 11-17 August 1996 in Rimouski, Québec. Over 450 participants from 38 countries were in attendance. The inspiration for CZC '96 came from the recognition of the need to maintain the substantial momentum that had been generated internationally for the ICZM concept subsequent to the 1972 United Nations Conference on Human Environment in Stockholm. CZC '96 addressed the theme "*Coastal Zones: Integrated Management and Sustainable Development*" with the following objectives:

- A. To review the theoretical and practical knowledge acquired since CZC '94 on coastal regions, including scientific, economic, social and cultural aspects, and to establish new research directions.
- B. To provide a forum for stakeholders from various government agencies, universities, industries and other groups concerned with sustainable development and the enhancement and use of coastal areas.
- C. To issue recommendations based on the discussions at CZC '96 so that governments and other decision makers can incorporate them into their strategies for integrated management and sustainable development of coastal regions under their authority.

The conference consisted of five plenary sessions, 44 technical sessions, two poster sessions, five workshops, two roundtable sessions, one public session, a trade show and an art exhibition. The main issues discussed at the conference were:

- a. Coastal management and sustainable development;
- b. Coastal erosion and sedimentation;
- c. Impacts of global change on coastal zones;
- d. Coastal pollution; and
- e. New models and tools for sustainable development.

## 2.6 Outputs from the Coastal Zone Canada '96 Conference

A round-table session entitled "*Coastal Zone Management in Canada – How should we proceed?*" was held during the conference. This event, which was attended by some 75 persons, was organized to provide for an open discussion on the principles, approaches and directions towards coastal zone management that might be appropriate for Canada. The session provided an opportunity to discuss and debate this topic before any hard and fast decisions were taken at the governmental level. In addition to the *Call for Action* resulting from CZC '94, several key questions and issues were posed for consideration by participants, including:

- 1) What do we want to achieve through ICZM?
- 2) Who should have lead responsibility?
- 3) What are the limiting factors in the development of ICZM?
- 4) What are the issues surrounding community-based management?

Coming out of this session was an Association Report describing the deliberations (Nicholls & Morry, 1996) and a draft document calling for the protection and sustainability of coastal and ocean resources in Canada. The Coastal Zone Canada Association considered this document at its special meeting held later in the conference. Following the incorporation of a number of revisions, it was formally adopted by the Association, and came to be known as the *Rimouski Declaration*. Among the many recommendations called for in the *Rimouski Declaration* were the following, all of which were subsequently acted upon by the Federal Government of Canada:

- Immediate action to develop and implement a Canadian Oceans Policy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century;
- Rapid passage and implementation of the Canada Oceans Act;
- Development and implementation of Canada's National Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities; and
- The designation of Marine Protected Areas to conserve and protect critical habitats, marine biodiversity and marine living resources.

A second declaration, *The Call for International Action*, was subsequently issued, that called upon the governments of coastal nations to:

- Accept responsibility for the sustainable use of and developing national frameworks for integrated management of coastal and marine resources;
- Define clear national aims, objectives and targets for sustainable use of coastal and ocean resources;
- Develop and implement national coastal and ocean action programmes;
- Provide legal, financial and administrative mechanisms to enable coastal and ocean action programmes;
- Provide resources necessary to implement national coastal and ocean action programmes, especially through capacity-building and empowering coastal communities; and
- Develop education, training and research programmes to improve awareness, appreciation and understanding of coastal and ocean environments.

Both of these declarations were widely distributed by the Association, including to both the federal ministers of Environment and Fisheries and Oceans, and each provincial Premier, as a positive step towards putting ICZM more firmly on the agenda of the country.

The main report of the conference appeared in a special issue of the international journal *Ocean & Coastal Management* (Volume 38, Numbers 1-2, 1998). The first paper, "*Coastal management and sustainable development: From Stockholm to Rimouski*" (*ibid.*, pp. 1-24), provides a review of the deliberations of the conference. A copy of the *Rimouski Declaration* is also included, along with twelve selected papers presented at the conference.

The 1996 conference was arguably one of the most influential of all of the CZC conferences to date. As Ricketts (2000, p.331) states, “The importance of the Rimouski Declaration is that much of its content is reflected in the final wording of the Canada Oceans Act”.

### *2.7 Future role and objectives of the Association.*

Following the practice established at CZC ‘94, a special meeting of the Association was held at CZC ‘96, and was attended by some 24 members and visitors. However, this practice would change at future conferences since it was agreed that future Annual General Meetings in even-numbered years should coincide with the time and place of the CZC conference held that year. It was also agreed that the Association change its bylaws to reflect a two-year term for its officers and directors, such elections to be held at the AGM concurrent with a CZC Conference.

The main item of business at CZC ‘96 was a further review of the paper “*Future Role and Objectives of the CZC Association*”, which had originally been submitted to the second AGM as mentioned above. Among the decisions reached, it was agreed that the Association should undertake an advocacy role to promote the concept of integrated coastal zone management throughout Canada. The suggestion that the CZCA should be a lobbying organization was rejected. A list of the activities appropriate for the Association was produced comprising the following nine categories:

- a. organizing CZC Conferences every two years;
- b. advocating policy options at the provincial and federal levels;
- c. endeavouring to keep ICZM on the political agenda;
- d. undertaking professional development;
- e. providing a source of professional commentary on coastal zone issues;
- f. serving as a vehicle for public education;
- g. providing a means for professional networking;
- h. serving as a central clearing house for coastal zone information; and
- i. providing a linkage with international organizations having a similar focus.

## **3.0 “..... there’s Fire”: Blazing the Trail for Canadian Coastal and Ocean Management**

The first four years of the CZCA, encompassing the period between 1994 and 1998, was one of hope and optimism for ICOM in Canada. Those heady days saw the first “one off” CZC conference become the impetus for a series of CZC conferences that served to motivate and focus discussions on advancing this important agenda. In 1996, the agenda took a major step forward on the federal scene in Canada.

### *3.1 Influencing ICZM at Home and Abroad*

Without doubt, the most significant and hopeful development in Canadian coastal and ocean management in the period between CZC ‘96 and CZC ‘98 was the passage into law

of the *Canada Oceans Act* on December 18 1996, and its Royal Proclamation on January 31, 1997. This clear expression of political will, missing so long from the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management (ICOM) equation in Canada, was finally made.

With the passage of the *Oceans Act* (Government of Canada, 1996), the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) was designated as the lead federal agency for ICOM in Canada. Under the *Oceans Act*, Canada established for the first time an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and DFO was legislated to lead and facilitate the development and implementation of a national strategy for the management of Canada's estuarine, coastal and marine ecosystems. DFO moved quickly to re-organize internally by setting up 'Oceans Act Implementation Offices' in their headquarters and regions in 1997, and to put flesh on the framework of the *Oceans Act*, by releasing a review document in 1998 entitled, *Toward Canada's Oceans Strategy* (DFO, 1998).

This proposed Oceans Strategy was to be built on the three principles of: (1) sustainable development, (2) integrated management, and (3) the precautionary approach. Further, it would focus on the goals of: replacing the existing fragmented approach to oceans management with a collaborative, integrated approach; expanding working partnerships among oceans stakeholders and increasing their responsibility and accountability; optimizing the economic potential of Canada's oceans while ensuring their conservation and sustainability; and positioning Canada as a world leader in oceans management.

A review of the principles, priorities and recommendations resulting from the CZCA's first two conferences clearly show a strong concurrence with the proposed oceans strategy. It is clear that what was being discussed and recommended at the CZC conferences was having an influence on the development of government policy on ICOM.

During this period, there were many other significant developments in ICOM, both in Canada and internationally, that added to the clarity and focus on what was needed for effective coastal and oceans management in Canada. Domestically, the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy (NRTEE) convened a round table on oceans resources and environment and produced what they termed a new framework for sustainable ocean management. The report entitled '*Sustainable Strategies for Oceans: A Co-management Guide*' (NRTEE, 1998) was the NRTEE's contribution to the 1998 United Nations International Year of the Oceans and proposed new co-management guidelines for ocean management. They described co-management as a means of enabling a sharing of decision-making power, responsibility and risk between government and stakeholders, including resource users, environmental interests, and the broader community. This too, was strongly advocated at CZC '94 and CZC '96 and became the focus for CZC '98 in Victoria.

During this period several Provinces also rose to the challenge. The British Columbia government developed and released its "*Coastal Zone Position Paper*" (British Columbia, 1998) in June 1998 as a response and contribution to Canada's Oceans Strategy; New Brunswick was developing a Marine Policy and Coastal Areas Protection Strategy; and in Nova Scotia, a CZM Subcommittee of the NS Round Table was considering its next steps

and consulting with stakeholders with respect to its *Coastal 2000* policy document that was released in 1994 (NS Dept. of Fisheries, 1994).

Also on the east coast, ecosystem-based, multi-stakeholder coalitions called the Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership (BoFEP) and the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Coalition on Sustainability were taking the principles and priorities of the new *Oceans Act* and the directions laid out in the draft *Oceans Strategy*, and applying them on the ground. The Canada-US Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment, established in 1989 among the States and Provinces bordering the Gulf, released its second Action Plan (Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment, 1996) that strongly reflected CZC themes. The community-based Atlantic Coastal Action Program (ACAP) progressed into its second phase in 1997 with an emphasis on a partnership-based approach focused on knowledge generation, capacity building, action and science. The Atlantic region was also the location of an innovative inter-provincial approach to manage and facilitate access to coastal and ocean information. Established in 1992 with representation from each of the four Atlantic Provinces, the Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee (ACZISC) provided a neutral forum through which agencies with coastal and marine responsibilities in Atlantic Canada share information and experiences and maximize collaborative opportunities. During the 1990s, the mission of the ACZISC was subsequently expanded to promote regional cooperation in Atlantic Canada with regards to coastal mapping and Integrated Coastal Management (ICM), and it continues its good work to this day.

During this important period there were also a number of other coastal zone conferences convened around the world that served to complement and further advance the ICOM agenda internationally. Several members of the CZCA played key and influential roles at a number of these major events, bringing forward the insights and recommendations developed through the CZC conferences. Keynote addresses by CZCA Directors were delivered at the Pacific Coasts and Ports '97 conference in Christchurch, New Zealand (Community-based Coastal Management: Developing Experience from Around the Globe); the U.S. Coastal Zone '97 conference in Boston, Massachusetts (ICM Into the Next Millennium); the U.S. Coastal Society (TCS '96) conference in Seattle, Washington; the Canadian Coastal Science and Engineering Association's Canadian Coastal Conference in May, 1997 in Guelph, Ontario (Canada's Emerging Oceans Strategy); and the EuroCoast conference (Littoral '96) in Portsmouth, England. Previously in 1995, a Director of the CZCA had delivered a keynote address at the Coastal Change Bordeaux '95 International Conference in Bordeaux, France.

CZCA insights and advice were invited and provided to the New Zealand Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment in the conduct of a major review of marine management in that country in 1997, and in Integrated Coastal management (ICM) workshops delivered in Dhaka, Bangladesh (National Capacity Building for ICM); Hanoi, Vietnam (Global Trends in ICM); Genoa, Italy (Education and Training in ICM); Paris, France (Conservation of the North Atlantic Shores – Views of the Experts) and San Patricio, Mexico (ICM Training Course). Several CZCA Directors also continued their collaboration with Australian colleagues through the Australia-Canada Ocean Research

Network (ACORN), producing an important book '*Ocean Law and Policy in the Post-UNCED Era: Australian and Canadian Perspectives*' (Kriwoken *et al.*, 1996). A special theme issue of *Ocean & Coastal Management* was produced on 'Community-based Coastal Management', edited by and contributed to by CZCA Directors (Hildebrand, 1997). The CZCA was becoming internationally recognised.

### 3.2 Coastal Zone Canada '98 Conference - Victoria, British Columbia

CZC '98 was the third in the Coastal Zone Canada series of international conferences, and was held in Victoria, BC from August 30 to September 3, 1998, one month short of 20 years since the National Canadian Shore Management Conference in October 1978 in the same city. The conference theme was *Coastal Challenges: Sharing Our Experiences - Building our Knowledge*, and the meeting attracted about 600 participants from 42 coastal nations. It was convened during the United Nations International Year of the Ocean and organized by the Coastal Zone Canada -BC Association, the first regional chapter of the Association.

The *Call for Action* from CZC '94 identified the challenges that must be addressed by coastal nations to move them closer to fully integrated coastal management. Particular emphasis was given to the need for community-based management. CZC '96 in Rimouski further developed these concepts and emphasized the need to develop practical guidance in the field. The recommendations developed reflect the consensus of representatives from over 50 coastal nations at each conference.

There was also a growing consensus internationally, that for ICM to be successful and sustainable, it must ensure that the people and communities living in and depending upon coastal areas are an integral part of the planning and decision-making process in partnership with the scientific community, non-government organizations, industry, academia and government. Given the growing experience in Community-Based ICM (CB-ICM) around the world, it was timely, if not imperative, that we shared these experiences and focused on developing tools and models needed to bring CB-ICM into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. This was the goal of CZC '98.

CZC '98 built on the results and guidance advanced by the first two CZC conferences and created a working forum where a broad cross-section of stakeholders in the coastal zone not only participated in defining issues, but also shared their experiences and collectively identified a range of alternatives to address ICM issues at the community level.

CZC '98 focused on three themes:

- Integrating Social, Economic and Ecological Factors – using case studies or practical experience related to aquaculture, awareness and support for coastal management, economics and funding of community groups, habitat protection and restoration, and sustainable development;

- The Need for (and use of) Science in the Coastal Zone – community-based data collection, knowledge flows, defining ecologically relevant units, information needs and systems, traditional knowledge, natural constraints to development; and
- Empowering Communities for Coastal Zone Management – experiences of indigenous peoples, coastal-dependent settlements, marine industries, governments, youth, elders.

The conference attracted representatives of: community groups; resource harvesters; First Nations; international agencies; local, regional and national governments; natural and social scientists; landowners; business people; students; interested citizens; and especially young people from around the world.

The conference was unique in its format. In addition to the usual plenary sessions in the morning where keynote addresses and selected papers were presented, 7 concurrent workshops were held in the afternoon, supported by technical papers, poster sessions and outreach and training opportunities. For three days, participants were asked to attend one of the workshops, ranging from the topics of community-based management, sustainable fisheries, and marine protected areas, to competing uses, pollution and environmental degradation. The aim of the workshops was to explore the problems and issues relating to each topic and to come up with a set of tools that could be used to deal with them. It was an innovative and bold exercise to develop something practical as an output of a conference.

CZC '98 also offered a unique event – the first CZC Youth Conference. In the days preceding the CZC conference, about 80 young people from across Canada and other countries spent three days discussing their roles and contribution in coastal management. They presented their views at the main conference and challenged the participants to listen to them with respect, with open minds and no preconceived ideas.

Each day started with an early breakfast and an hour of yoga. Panel discussions, breakout groups, interactive workshops, student presentations, and field trips all mirrored the themes of the 'other' conference. Each was well designed to focus on the themes of:

- Integration – how to integrate our lifestyles with desired social/ecological / economic outcomes;
- Science – the roles and responsibilities of scientists and how scientific information must be balanced with local and traditional ecological knowledge; and
- Empowerment – the empowerment of youth, which are an important segment of the whole community.

One particularly innovative and useful activity of the Youth Conference was the production of a daily newsletter, *Zoned In*, which presented an informative running commentary as their conference unfolded. *Zoned In* focused not only on the activities and workshops, but served as a concurrent forum for ideas and analyses of ideas presented. One young participant expressed the following sentiment – “If we take care of our youth, nurture their voices, do not deny their thoughts, and allow their energy and creativity to

grow, they will take care of the community. Youth are not just the future; they are part of the now.”

The public was also included in CZC '98. Members of the local public were invited to join the debate at a public forum “Perspectives on Community-based Coastal Management”, on September 1 at the Victoria Conference Centre.

### 3.3 *Outputs from CZC '98 Conference*

The CZC '98 conference was something that had to be experienced in order to get the full impact. The influence of First Nations and Youth participants provided an atmosphere and environment that was uplifting and truly spiritual. The formal outputs from the conference were an extended abstract volume, *Coastal Communities in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Sharing our Experience – Building our Knowledge*”, followed by the formal conference proceedings, *Coastal Zone Canada '98, Coastal Challenges: Sharing Our Experiences - Building our Knowledge* (Pringle, Wright and Dunn, 2000). The proceedings volume (which is also available on a CD) comprises the keynote addresses, 11 papers presented at the conference, and an extremely valuable “Coastal Challenge Toolkit” which emerged from the workshop sessions. The Toolkit includes 57 relevant tools or tool frameworks under six categories: Training and Capacity Building; Communication and Awareness; Empowerment; CZM Framework and Process; Knowledge; Policy and Planning.

Perhaps the conclusions and challenges provided by the Youth Conference give the best insight into the impact of this CZC conference (*ibid.*, p. 115):

“We ask you to actively involve us. We present five challenges:

1. Take some action personally, in changing your lifestyle. Go down to your favourite beach and clean it up if for no other reason than it might make you feel good;
2. Take stock of your lives and your impact on the earth and the others around you – practice what you preach;
3. Take a new approach when facilitating discussions – don't be afraid to be either a leader or relax;
4. Take a non-anthropocentric outlook at the world around you – put yourself back into it. Take another perspective while attempting to see other points of view. Be open to all sides of the issue; and
5. When discussing science, sociology, and economics, add your spirituality. Use your heart and guts when presenting material or when working with the community.

Youth have good ideas. We want to be heard. The achievements, tools and challenges are presented to you. In closing our conference, one thing we found important was our intuition, so to close with a quote; “*It is with our hearts that ones sees rightly. What is essential is invisible to the eye*”.

#### **4.0 Stoking the Flames: Consolidation and Growth of the CZCA, 1998-2002**

At the 5<sup>th</sup> AGM of the CZCA held on September 3, 1998, in Victoria, there was an intense discussion about the structure and make-up of the Association. Up to that point in time, the Board of the Association had been heavily dominated by individuals from the east coast. This reflected the fact that the CZCA was founded in Atlantic Canada and the bulk of its founding members were from that region of Canada. Now after two additional conferences following CZC '94, one in Québec and one on the west coast, the Association sought to make its governing body more geographically representative. At the 6<sup>th</sup> AGM of the CZCA on October 5, 1999 four Regional Vice-President positions (Atlantic, Pacific, Arctic, Great Lakes) were created, in order to reflect the national scope and the four-coast orientation of the Association. One Vice-President was elected at the AGM, and it was agreed to hold elections for additional three Regional Vice-Presidents later by e-mail ballot. The Vice-President elected at the AGM became the Vice-President (Pacific) following the vote for the Atlantic, Arctic, and Great Lakes VPs. Also at the 1998 AGM, the new By-Laws booklet and a new CZCA brochure were approved and over the course of the next year a Register of Members was completed.

##### *4.1 Establishment of the H.B. Nicholls Award*

With the CZCA now well established as an ongoing operation, discussion was initiated about how the Association might honour those who have demonstrated outstanding contributions to ICOM. On February 7, 2000, the CZCA Board of Directors approved the establishment of the H.B. Nicholls Award, to be awarded to an individual or organization that has contributed significantly to the advancement of the field of ICOM in Canada. This award was named in honour of Brian Nicholls, the first Chair of the Coastal Zone Canada Association and recently retired from a long and distinguished career with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography.

##### *4.2 Preparation for the Fourth Coastal Zone Canada Conference*

Preparations for CZC 2000, to be held in Saint John, N.B., began as early as 1996 with the establishment of a Steering Committee that eventually came to include some 34 people from many different agencies and interests, and 20 sub-committees to address specific areas of development. Building on the success of the Youth Conference at CZC '98, a Youth Forum was planned as an integral component of the conference. A prelude to this conference was the commissioning of a benchmark document entitled *Baseline 2000* (Sorensen, 2000), which addressed the full global range of coastal issues and a global database of ICM efforts. In addition, a Canadian Synopsis of this information was produced which included contact information. The challenge of the conference was to build upon the current status of some of the ICM issues identified, and set targets from which subsequent progress could be measured in order to lay the groundwork for a more coordinated approach to international ICM.

Again there was a very strong and powerful First Nation's presence at CZC 2000, and the tradition of a pre-conference Youth Forum was maintained. A Trade Show was initially

planned to be an integral component of the conference, but it evolved to become predominantly a Community Showcase of ICZM activities.

#### 4.3 *Coastal Zone Canada 2000 Conference, Saint John, New Brunswick*

This 4<sup>th</sup> CZCA international ICM conference was held on September 17-22, 2000, at the Trade and Convention Centre in Saint John, New Brunswick, and was attended by some 630 people from 47 countries. Its central theme was *Coastal Stewardship: Lessons Learned and the Paths Ahead*. The conference was structured into four sub-themes, namely: Aboriginal Practices, Oceans Governance, Community-Based Actions and Coastal Health. To address these sub-themes, 122 papers were presented, 58 case study/workshop sessions were held and each sub-theme culminated in a round table/consensus circle review. In further support of these, there were 89 poster presentations. A roving panel of experts circulated freely throughout the conference to summarize the “flavour” of activities.

At CZC 2000, the H.B. Nicholls Award was presented for first time, the recipient being Brian Nicholls himself. The 7<sup>th</sup> AGM of the CZCA, on September 18, 2000, ratified the creation of the HB Nicholls Award and approved to be awarded biennially at each CZC conference.

#### 4.4 *Outputs from CZC 2000 Conference*

The objective of CZC 2000 was not to produce a set of proceedings, but instead to produce a summary document of where Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) should be going based upon the conference review of a condensed pre-conference version of the *Background Report*, entitled *Baseline 2000* (CZCA, 2001a), and the deliberations of the participants. This assessment resulted in a summary document entitled “*Beyond 2000: An Agenda for ICM Development*” (CZCA, 2001b). This report stresses the need for the involvement of local communities in ICM activities, and identified a list of criteria for successful action. The large compendium of background data, the *Background Report for Baseline 2000* (Sorensen, 2000), was completed prior to the conference and was put on the CZCA web site.<sup>6</sup>

The *Baseline 2000* report reviewed the global status of ICM and established a baseline for improving international practice for the new Millennium. *Baseline 2000* concluded that the advancement of ICM practice depends largely upon improving the quality of global and national information exchange about ICM. It was proposed that six frameworks were required to organise, facilitate and enhance ICM’s information exchange and international practice:

- A global database of ICM efforts;
- A global index and database of ICM topics;

---

<sup>6</sup> See [www.czca-azcc.org/baseline2000.pdf](http://www.czca-azcc.org/baseline2000.pdf).

- An index of common impediments to ICM, as well as other types of sustainability planning and management;
- An index of common issues that have motivated ICM efforts;
- An index of model planning and management approaches and techniques for resolving common issues;
- A performance assessment framework to evaluate and improve ICM programmes.

A seventh framework was added during the conference:

- Analyses of general guidance literature on ICM as an international practice.

Based upon these seven frameworks, the goal of the conference was to identify a set of performance indicators by which ICM activities can be measured, and *Beyond 2000* was produced to provide the opportunity to “measure and evaluate our progress towards coastal sustainability” (*ibid.*, p. 3). *Beyond 2000* discussed seven important and emerging ICM cross-sectoral concepts:

- The evolving role of communities in shaping the way coastal resources are managed (this is viewed as the overriding issue);
- The development of Global and National Programmes of Action to promote sustainable development;
- The establishment of Marine Protected Areas as examples of strategies to protect coastal environments and resources;
- The role of property rights and the allocation of access in determining the utilisation of coastal resources;
- The need for effective monitoring of coastal ecosystem health and the economic benefits of environmental restoration;
- Information as a commodity and the importance of infrastructures to promote greater information access and use; and
- The great need for ICM to concern itself with land-based activities within coastal watersheds.

The purpose of *Beyond 2000* was to give the ICM community the opportunity to measure and evaluate progress towards sustainability. To accomplish this, *Beyond 2000* developed a list of minimal criteria for the success of ICM efforts in Canada and internationally. The criteria provide a mechanism by which the strengths and weaknesses of ICM programmes can be measured. The criteria include: stability; inclusivity and equity; integration; respect; clear definitions; sustainability; empowerment; and local and global scopes.

Finally, *Beyond 2000* presents a checklist of key challenges facing ICM practitioners in Canada and around the world, so that they can evaluate and assess their progress in meeting these challenges. Building upon the outputs of CZC '98, CZC 2000 created a set of products that form a valuable toolkit for ICM practitioners and stakeholders. Perhaps more than any other CZC conference to date, CZC 2000 provided the most tangible support to one of the key goals of the CZCA, which is to help governments and coastal

communities build their capacity to manage their coastal and ocean resources in a manner that will ensure sustainable use and development.

#### 4.5 *Further Development of the Coastal Zone Canada Association*

On November 22, 2000, the CZCA web page<sup>7</sup> was established on the DFO server in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia to provide general information about the Association and to keep members apprised of activities and events, and especially to provide information about the upcoming CZC conferences. Later, in 2002, the web site was moved from DFO to Memorial University of Newfoundland, being maintained through the Marine Institute. On June 29, 2001, a Letter of Understanding between CZCA and its chapters, and Membership and Communications Guidelines were finalized and ratified at the 8<sup>th</sup> AGM of the CZCA on September 19, 2001. The LOU is important as it establishes the relationship between the Association and its regional chapters that are established for the purposes of developing and running the CZC conferences.

In 2002 the CZCA was officially accepted as a Canadian National NGO member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), known as The World Conservation Union. The Directors felt that the CZCA shared the values of the World Conservation Union and would benefit from its national, regional, and international network. Also a CZCA Newsletter was established to be distributed to all members. It is issued quarterly and produced in both English and French. These Newsletters are posted on the CZCA website as well as being sent electronically to all members individually.

#### 4.6 *Coastal Zone Canada 2002 Conference, Hamilton, Ontario*

Created to address the need for a Canadian-based forum to discuss and advance the field of coastal management, the CZCA had always dreamed of running CZC conference on all four of Canada's "coastlines", including the Great Lakes. When Pollution Probe offered to take the lead on developing a conference on the Great Lakes in partnership with the CZCA, and with significant financial support from Environment Canada-Ontario Region, the Association leapt at the opportunity. A conference Organizing Committee for CZC 2002 was set up in 2000, supported by seven sub-committees.

The 5<sup>th</sup> CZC conference was held on June 23-28, 2002, in Hamilton, Ontario, and was attended by over 440 people from 30 countries. This conference was notable in that not only was it the first freshwater coastal conference of the Association, it was also the first which was jointly hosted with other organizations, namely Pollution Probe and the United Nations University: International Network on Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH). Its central theme was *Managing Shared Waters: Towards Sustainable Transboundary Coastal Ecosystems*, and was structured in four sub-themes: (1) Education, Training and Awareness Raising; (2) Institutional and Participatory Frameworks; (3) Measuring and Understanding Coastal Ecosystems; and (4) Infrastructure, Products and Services. To address these sub-themes, daily concurrent interactive workshops were held to develop conference recommendations. These were

---

<sup>7</sup> See [www.czca-azcc.org](http://www.czca-azcc.org).

supported by some 77 separate topical sessions consisting of more than 250 papers, and a special Youth Forum (now a tradition at CZC conferences) was organized for input of their perspective to the conference and its theme. Elizabeth Dowdeswell, who had presided over the first CZC conference in Halifax, returned to a CZC conference to provide a stimulating keynote address, and Larry Hildebrand provided a Background Paper entitled "*Integrated Coastal Management – Lessons Learned and Challenges Ahead*".<sup>8</sup>

In preparation for this conference a significant Resource Kit (Pollution Probe, 2002) was developed which included background review papers on ICM and Capacity for Managing Transboundary Coastal Ecosystems, with four supporting case studies and a summary of the key capacity needs within each sub-theme section that were identified as significant for successful integrated management of transboundary coastal areas. It also included a section on "Approaches and Tools" that have been developed, implemented and tested by the conference presenters.

At CZC 2002, the Association presented the H.B. Nicholls Award for the second time. The recipient was Larry Hildebrand, the immediate Past President of the CZCA, for his tireless effort and support of ICZM in Canada and abroad, and his strong record of contributions to the Canadian and international ICOM literature.

#### 4.7 *Outputs of CZC 2002 Conference*

CZC 2002 and the *Managing Shared Waters* initiative provided the international community with a contemporary assessment of the capacity needs of those working towards the sustainable development of coastal zones, with a special focus on transboundary situations. The outputs of the conference are posted on the Pollution Probe website.<sup>9</sup>

The *Hamilton Statement on Managing Shared Waters* (Pollution Probe, June 28, 2002) provided a strong set of recommendations on each of the four "pillars" or sub-themes of the conference (as mentioned in 4.6 above), a reaffirmation of commitment to the Rio Principles, the full implementation of Agenda 21, and the UN Millennium Goals. The Conference Statement recommended the following "Priorities for Action" to the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in August 2002 and to the World Water Forum in Kyoto in March 2003:

- Increased and long-term investment in capacity development must be a greater priority for integrated coastal management, with particular emphasis on shared coastal ecosystems. This is a critical and urgent imperative for action.
- Effective *integrated* coastal ecosystem management must be accompanied by *integrated* capacity development. This requires better overall coordination of the four "pillars" of the capacity development process and better integration of marine, coastal and freshwater ecosystem management.

---

<sup>8</sup> Available on the CZCA website at <http://www.czca-azcc.org/ICM.MSW.Paper.htm>.

<sup>9</sup> See [www.pollutionprobe.org/managing.shared.waters](http://www.pollutionprobe.org/managing.shared.waters).

- Capacity development must be focused primarily at the community level. This is the most direct path forward.

These recommendations were presented to the Johannesburg and Kyoto conferences by Canadian Environment Minister, the Right Honorable David Anderson.

The “*Managing Shared Waters: Conference Summary*” (Pollution Probe, 2003) provides a report on the proceedings of the conference. Again this report is on the Pollution Probe website (see URL reference above). As the Report states, CZC 2002 and the Managing Shared Waters Initiative was successful in its efforts to offer the international marine and freshwater coastal zone communities, particularly those in transboundary situations, an opportunity to pool their knowledge about capacity needs and to present their recommendations to the international community.

By bringing together saltwater and freshwater coastal management experts and communities, the CZCA, Pollution Probe, and UNU-INWEH were able to provide the Great Lakes community with an opportunity to profile its experience with the international community and to benefit from the experience and practical input of coastal stakeholders and policy makers in Canada, the U.S., and around the world. Perhaps the major outcome of this conference for participants, in addition to the important conference statements and reports, was expressed by Elizabeth Dowdeswell (Pollution Probe, 2003, p.9):

“As we enter the 21<sup>st</sup> century, it seems to me that it is not the scientific and technical challenges of sustainable development or water management that should occupy our greatest attention. It is the challenge of attitudinal and behavioural change – both of individuals and institutions – that will prove formidable over time.”

Following the success of CZC 2002, the CZCA made Pollution Probe and UNU-INWEH Honorary Corporate Members of the Association with the intent that the three organizations would continue their relationship and arrange for follow-up sessions on the *Managing Shared Waters* theme at future CZC conferences. Such a session was convened at the CZC 2004 conference.

## **5.0 Keeping the Home Fires Burning: Building for the Second Decade of the CZCA**

For the CZC 2004 Conference, the CZCA returned to Atlantic Canada to celebrate ten years of CZC conferences. When the Association gathered in St. John’s, Newfoundland and Labrador, on June 26-30, 2004, it marked ten years since the first conference, CZC ’94 in Halifax, and the formation of the CZCA. In preparing for the second decade of the CZCA, the Association is taking a look at its role for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### *5.1 Sixth Coastal Conference: CZC 2004, St. John’s, NL. – Celebrating Ten Years of CZC Conferences*

The conference theme of *All Within One Ocean: Co-operation in Sustainable Coastal and Ocean Management* reflects the expansion of management concerns to encompass oceans and coasts (as reflected in Canada's Oceans Act) as well as returning to the original CZC theme of co-operation in the coastal zone. Attended by over 300 participants from some 20 countries, this conference provided the opportunity to reflect on the ten years of CZC conferences in Canada, developments in ocean and coastal management, and to build on the outputs of the previous conferences in:

- raising awareness and expanding knowledge and understanding of coastal and ocean management;
- developing critical networks at local, regional, national and international scales;
- strengthening capacity building to support Canada's global strategy for sustainable development;
- improving communications between practitioners, academics, industry, business, and community activists; and
- shaping Canada's coastal and ocean management policies and practices.

In addition to celebrating ten years of the CZCA, CZC 2004 was also an important opportunity to consider the role of the Association and whether it should change and evolve as we move forward into the next decade of activity.

One of the major focuses of the conference was to provide recommendations and guidance to the Government of Canada on the development of the Oceans Action Plan. Participants were asked to provide their top three priorities to be included in the Action Plan, and these were synthesized by an Expert Panel and presented to the final Plenary Session of the conference. A Conference Statement is being finalized at the time of writing this paper, and will be submitted to the federal, provincial and territorial governments of Canada by the CZCA on behalf of the conference participants.

The CZC 2004 conference provided the venue for the Association to present the third "H.B. Nicholls Award" to Dr. Art Hanson, O.C., for his distinguished career in promoting sustainable development and coastal and ocean management, both in Canada and globally. Also at CZC 2004, the CZCA signed a formal Letter of Agreement with the Ocean Management Research Network (see section 5.3 below) to collaborate on each other's biennial conferences and work together to promote the aims of the two organizations.

## 5.2 *Assessing the Influence of the CZC Conferences*

With six major conferences under its belt over a period of ten years, the CZCA is undertaking a serious look at its role and function within the context of ICOM in Canada in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Through its major conferences, the Association has made and continues to make a significant contribution to defining Canadian ICOM by providing a forum for coastal and ocean experts and practitioners, and producing tangible outputs that have been focussed upon two key areas:

1. Actions for policy and decision-making; and
2. Mechanisms and tools to support capacity building for coastal communities, ICOM practitioners, and stakeholders.

Each conference has played its own unique role:

- CZC '94, Halifax, NS: Blazed the trail for the establishment of a biennial series of coastal zone conferences in Canada, produced a Call for Action that highlighted the importance of a community-based approach to ICOM; and a set of scientific proceedings that have been widely used as a key Canadian reference for international literature in ICOM.
- CZC '96, Rimouski, Québec: Produced the *Rimouski Declaration* that called for the passage of national legislation to support ocean and coastal management in Canada, and influenced the nature and content of Canada's Oceans Act of 1997.
- CZC '98, Victoria, BC: Highlighted the importance of taking the perspectives of First Nations and youth in community-based coastal management, and initiated the development of the ICOM Toolkit.
- CZC 2000, Saint John, NB: Produced a "State of the Art" evaluation of ICM with the *Baseline 2000* report, and created a toolkit for ICM Performance Evaluation and Assessment.
- CZC 2002, Hamilton, ONT: Produced the *Hamilton Statement on Managing Shared Waters* that was presented to the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in August 2002 and to the World Water Forum in Kyoto in March 2003.
- CZC 2004, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador: Developed a formal submission to the Government of Canada on the development and implementation of Canada's Oceans Action Plan.

Perhaps even more important than the written outputs has been the level of interest and understanding that has been gained by the thousands of individuals from across Canada and abroad, from all walks of life, from all ages, and from numerous cultures, who have attended the six conferences to date. The human impact is difficult to measure, but it is clearly one that matters.

The CZCA can look back with some level of satisfaction on these conferences and their resulting outputs. However, as we look to the next ten years of the CZCA we must consider new and innovative ways to keep the goals and objectives of the Association alive and well.

### 5.3 *Building a Sustainable Role for the CZCA*

With the Federal Government of Canada currently developing its Oceans Action Plan, which flows out of the Canada Oceans Strategy, the Association is seeking a more formal role in supporting Canada's ICOM agenda that does not jeopardize its arm's length role in reviewing, assessing, and criticizing Canada's approach. It is intended that the Conference Statement developed out of CZC 2004 will be an important part of that process.

The Oceans Action Plan will focus on four pillars: (1) International leadership, sovereignty and security (with particular emphasis on the Arctic); (2) Health of the Oceans focusing on Marine Protected Areas; (3) Integrated Management with the identification of priority ocean areas; and (4) Ocean Technology Innovation. The CZCA can provide critical support to the federal government in developing and implementing this Oceans Action Plan, as its biennial conferences provide the most comprehensive forum in Canada for policy managers, academics, scientists, politicians, communities, industry and business, NGOs, and other interested parties to join together to provide critical assessment and recommendations for action and review.

At the time of writing, the Association is seeking sustainable support from the federal government and from other sources (such as provincial governments and industry) for:

- Supporting government in the development and assessment of the Oceans Action Plan;
- Continuing the Coastal Zone Canada conferences - CZC 2006 will be held in the Canadian Arctic, at Tuktoyaktuk, NWT and this will provide a critical opportunity for Canadian preparations for the International Polar Year in 2007, and the CZC conference will likely return to the west coast in 2008;
- Expanding the Association's role to provide an ongoing arm's length assessment of ICOM in Canada;
- Building upon the process started with the Association's *Baseline 2000* initiative by establishing and maintaining a Canadian ICOM inventory.

While the outcomes of these discussions are yet to be determined, there is no doubt that the CZCA has an important continuing role to play as Canada continues to implement directives of the Oceans Act and seeks to meet its international commitments towards global ICOM and environmental protection.

Another initiative being pursued is the establishment of closer ties between the CZCA and the Ocean Management Research Network (OMRN). Funded initially by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), the OMRN has sought to link Canadian researchers with interests relating to all aspects of the management of ocean uses. After a number of successful conferences and workshops, the OMRN and the CZCA have entered into a formal Agreement to collaborate on holding sessions at each other's conferences (similar to arrangement between the CZCA and the CC-SEA as discussed in section 2.4 above), and to explore other avenues of co-operation and collaboration between the two organizations. As the Letter of Agreement between the CZCA and the OMRN states, the two organizations "...each have an interest in oceans, coasts and coastal communities and improving the management of Canada's marine-related resources, increasing knowledge and research on ocean and coastal management, and improving connections and working rapport between researchers and managers working for coastal communities and ocean health in Canada".

## 6.0 Conclusion

The metaphor of fire that runs through this paper is appropriate for the role played by the Coastal Zone Canada Association. Rekindling the flame, stoking the fire, keeping the flames burning – all of these reflect the role that the CZCA has attempted to play in trying to ensure that the concepts and practice of ICOM in Canada are kept on the national agenda and that the participants in the CZC conferences are invigorated and empowered to make good decisions. The tactic of ensuring that each conference produces a conference statement and action plan followed up by the direct efforts of Association members to get those products to the attention of key policy and decision makers, has ensured that the outputs of the conference do not just get shelved and used only occasionally as reference material.

We believe that the CZCA can look back with pride on the accomplishments and progress during its first decade, and with confidence to the future. Canada is now on the map as a major venue for international dialogue on coastal and ocean management, and significant advances have been made on the home front. The burning desire that motivated the original founders of the CZCA is still alive and well, and the challenges and opportunities of the 21<sup>st</sup> century will fuel the activities of the Association as it enters its second decade.

## References

British Columbia. 1998. *Province of British Columbia Coastal Zone Position Paper*. Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management. Victoria.

CCREM, 1978. *Shore Management Symposium Proceedings*, Canadian Council of Resource and Environment Ministers, Victoria BC.

CZCA. 1996. *Coastal Zone Canada '94, "Co-operation in the Coastal Zone": Conference Statement and Call for Action*, Coastal Zone Canada Association, Dartmouth NS.

CZCA. 2001. *Beyond 2000: An Agenda for Integrated Coastal Management Development Conference Statement and Call for Action*, Post-conference Report of the Coastal Zone Canada 2000 International Conference, Saint John, NB, September 17-22, 2000. Coastal Zone Canada Association, Dartmouth NS.

DFO. 1998. *Toward Canada's Oceans Strategy*, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Ottawa.

Government of Canada. 1996. *Canada Oceans Act*, RSC 1996: Bill C-26, Chapter 31, 2<sup>nd</sup> Session, 35<sup>th</sup> Parliament, 45, Eliz. 2. 1996.

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment. 1996. *Action Plan: 1996-2001*. Augusta, Maine.

Hildebrand, L.P. (Ed.). 1997. Community-based Coastal Management. Special Issue of Ocean & Coastal Management Journal, Vol. 36, Nos. 1-3, 228 p.

ICO. 1992. Framework for the Management of Marine Environmental Quality within the Federal Government. Interdepartmental Committee on Oceans (ICO), Marine Environmental Quality Working Group. Ottawa.

ICO. 1994. Federal Framework and Action Plan for Marine Environmental Quality. Interdepartmental Committee on Oceans (ICO), Marine Environmental Quality Working Group. Dartmouth and Ottawa.

Kriwoken, L.K., M. Haward, D. VanderZwaag and B. Davis (Eds.). 1996. Oceans Law and Policy in the Post-UNCED Era: Australian and Canadian Perspectives. Kluwer Law International Environmental Law & Policy Series. The Hague.

NRTEE. 1998. *Sustainable Strategies for Oceans: A Co-Management Guide*. Ottawa: National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy, 85 p.

NS Department of Fisheries. 1994. Coastal 2000: Working Together for Sustainable Development of Nova Scotia's Coastal Zone. Halifax, NS

Nicholls, H.B. and C.J. Morry. 1996. *Coastal Zone Canada '96 Conference, Rimouski, Québec, Canada: Round Table Session on Coastal Zone Management August 13, 1996 – Summary of Discussions*. CZCA, Dartmouth NS.

Pringle, J.D., C.A. Wright and M.W. Dunn. 2000. *Coastal Zone Canada '98, Coastal Challenges: Sharing Our Experiences - Building our Knowledge*. Coastal Zone Canada British Columbia Association. Victoria BC.

Ricketts, P.J. 2000. "Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Atlantic Canada: Looking toward the Third Millennium", *Ocean Yearbook 14*, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, pp. 291-359.

Sorensen, J. 2000. *Baseline 2000, Background Report: The Status of Integrated Coastal Management as an International Practice*. CZCA, Dartmouth NS.

Wells, P.G. and P.J. Ricketts (eds.). 1994. *Coastal Zone Canada '94, "Co-operation in the Coastal Zone"*, *Proceedings of the CZC '94 Conference*, 5 vols., Coastal Zone Canada Association, Dartmouth NS.

Wells, P.G. and P.J. Ricketts (eds.). 1996. *Coastal Zone Canada '94, "Co-operation in the Coastal Zone": Conference Summary*, *Proceedings of the CZC '94 Conference* Vol. 6, Coastal Zone Canada Association, Dartmouth NS.

## **APPENDIX I**

### **Officers of the Coastal Zone Canada Association 1994-2004**

#### **1994-1996**

Chairman:	Brian Nicholls
Vice-Chairman:	Larry Hildebrand
Secretary/Treasurer:	Brad Fay

#### **1996-1998**

Chairman/President:	Larry Hildebrand
Vice-Chairman/Vice-President:	Barry Jones
Secretary/Treasurer:	Brad Fay
Past-Chairman:	Brian Nicholls

Note: The position of Chairman and Vice-Chairman were replaced by the positions of President and Vice-President respectively at the 1997 AGM.

#### **1998-2000**

President:	Barry Jones
Past President:	Larry Hildebrand
Secretary/Treasurer:	Brad Fay
Vice-President, Atlantic:	Mike Butler
Vice-President, Great Lakes:	Patrick Lawrence
Vice-President, Arctic:	Jack Mathias
Vice-President, Pacific:	Michael Dunn

Note: The position of Vice-President was eliminated and the four regional Vice-President positions were created at the 1998 AGM.

#### **2000-2002**

President:	Barry Jones
Past President:	Larry Hildebrand
Secretary/Treasurer:	Brad Fay
Vice-President, Atlantic:	Mike Butler
Vice-President, Great Lakes:	Patrick Lawrence
Vice-President, Arctic:	Jack Mathias
Vice-President, Pacific:	Sam Baird

#### **2002-2004**

President:	Peter Ricketts
Past President:	Barry Jones
Secretary/Treasurer:	Brad Fay
Vice-President, Atlantic:	Mike Butler
Vice-President, Great Lakes:	Patrick Lawrence
Vice-President, Arctic:	Steve Newton

Vice-President, Pacific:	Vacant
Vice-President, Liaison:	Larry Hildebrand
Vice-President, Communications	Vacant

**2004-2006**

President:	Peter Ricketts
Past President:	Barry Jones
Secretary/Treasurer:	François Bailet
Vice-President, Atlantic:	Mike Butler
Vice-President, Great Lakes:	Patrick Lawrence
Vice-President, Arctic:	Steve Newton
Vice-President, Pacific:	David Fraser
Vice-President, Liaison:	Larry Hildebrand
Vice-President, Communications:	Grant Gardner