

COASTAL ZONE CANADA ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER #15, SEPTEMBER 2005

This newsletter, which is issued quarterly, is distributed by e-mail to members of the Coastal Zone Canada Association, providing news about the Association, its activities and its members, as well as information of potential interest to members. Please feel free to circulate it among your own networks. Also check out the Association's Web site at: <http://www.czca-azcc.org>.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As summer nears its end, we can reflect on an exciting period emerging for coastal management in Canada. With the federal government moving ahead on the Oceans Action Plan, and actual resources being allocated for Phase 1, it will be interesting to see what changes will occur. One big challenge is to develop formal federal-provincial cooperation agreements on ICOM to ensure that each level of government is working together. BC has moved ahead with such an agreement, and hopefully other coastal provinces will follow suit.

The CZCA is actively supporting the federal government's initiatives, and the response to our CZC 2004 Conference Statement has been very positive. Correspondence received from the Ministers of Fisheries and Oceans, Environment, Finance, and Industry thanking the Association for its proposals and good work, demonstrate the high level of support in Cabinet for the Oceans Action Plan and associated initiatives. The CZCA is certainly well recognized for its work over the years in bringing coastal and ocean stakeholders together and producing statements and calls-for-action that provide valuable advice to the federal government. I have also been pleased to receive a number of excellent responses from provincial governments, demonstrating their recognition of the importance of integrated management of coastal and ocean resources. I feel confident that the message of the CZCA is being heard and is having positive impacts across our country.

The Hurricane Katrina disaster is another rude reminder of the hazards of living in the coastal zone, and the impacts of not taking those hazards seriously enough in the coastal management process. In 2004 and 2005, two of the major global news events (Indian Ocean tsunami and Hurricane Katrina) have been coastal zone disasters, and the lack of management preparation has been a key element of both events. Hopefully some good will come out of all of this in that political leaders will realize that the worst case scenarios can and do happen, and that it is not just academics and professional managers crying wolf. Or am I hoping for too much?

The OMRN conference will be in Ottawa at the end of September. In the spirit of the CZCA-OMRN Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which we signed in St. John's at CZC 2004, we have organized a paper session at which Leslie Grattan, Steve Newton and myself will present papers on the work of the CZCA, including the successful outputs of CZC 2004 and the development and planning for CZC 2006 in Tuktoyaktuk. I am delighted to see that the Conference Output CD from CZC 2004 has now been published, and this is excellent timing for the OMRN conference. Included on the CD is the paper about the first ten years of the CZCA, co-authored by Brian Nicholls, Barry Jones, Larry Hildebrand and myself. I hope you will find that a useful overview of the success of the CZCA since its first conference in 1994.

We are currently in the process of finalizing two new MOUs, one with the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences (CRAES) and the other with IPY (International Polar Year) Canada. These two MOUs will provide linkages between the Association and the organizations that will be important for CZC in 2006 and beyond. Finally, Peter Harrison and I are progressing with the preparation of a special Canadian theme issue of the Coastal Management Journal. We are anticipating that this issue will be published sometime in the spring or early summer of 2006. Enjoy what is left of summer and I look forward to seeing those of you who will be attending the OMRN conference in Ottawa.

Best wishes,
Peter Ricketts

COASTAL ZONE CANADA ASSOCIATION SECRETARY

In the June 2005 issue of the Newsletter we announced the appointment of Andrea Carew as the new Secretary of the CZCA. Here is some additional information about Andrea.

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Biography:

Andrea is the CEO of ***Ocean Resource Conservation Associates (ORCA) Inc.***, based out of Newfoundland & Labrador, Canada and Bristol, UK. She has a background in science with a Masters degree in Marine Studies (Fisheries Resource Management), and has several years experience in marine and fisheries conservation policy and management. Andrea is currently also the interim Head of Fisheries Policy for the Stockholm based ***Fisheries Secretariat*** dealing with EU sustainable fisheries issues.

Other professional experience includes being the Senior Fisheries Policy Advisor for a statutory government agency in Europe (UK), where she was closely involved with the reform of the European Common Fisheries Policy. During this period, Andrea worked closely with the fishing industry as well as government colleagues and counterparts across Europe to influence thinking and action on integrating environmental considerations into policy.

Andrea also has experience in working with the Canadian federal government on various marine conservation issues (illegal oil discharge at sea, fisheries biological analysis, NAFO observer coverage, Minister's Advisory Panel on the Sustainable Management of Straddling Fish Stocks in the Northwest Atlantic). She has also worked extensively within the non-governmental sector both at home and abroad and served as the Executive Director of a provincial nature trust in Newfoundland. Among her activities as CZCA Secretary, she will assist the Association with shaping policies and approaches that influence our marine environment.

COASTAL ZONE CANADA (CZC) 2006 CONFERENCE

Mark your Calendars!!!

As most of you know, the next CZC Conference is taking place on the lovely Arctic coast next summer. CZC'06 will bring together approximately 250 main participants and 100 youth in Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories from August 12-18, 2006 to learn about "Arctic Change and Coastal Communities".

The Youth Forum will run from August 12-13 followed by the Main Conference from August 14-18, 2006. The CZC'06 Organizing Committee has been very active confirming accommodations, fundraising, and developing the program. Our 1st Call for Papers and early online registration will open on October 1, 2005.

The Committee is actively looking for sponsors and people interested in organizing sessions or workshops relevant to our theme. Please visit our website for more information: <http://www.czc06.ca>.

SHORT NEWS ITEMS

(A) Oil Spill Prevention and Preparedness in Newfoundland and Labrador (Contributed by Leslie Grattan)

The traditional Great Circle Route for vessels travelling from Europe to North America brings thousands of vessels close to the coast of the Island of Newfoundland. As well, tanker traffic has increased over the past several years, especially along the south coast and in Placentia Bay with the refinery at Come-by-Chance operating steadily and

the transshipment terminal used by offshore oil companies. Oiling of large numbers of seabirds is a chronic problem in these areas and, as tanker traffic increases, so does the risk of a large, marine spill.

The foundering and sinking of the tanker Prestige and the resulting pollution of thousands of kilometres of coastline of northern Spain and France in late 2002 – 2003 served as a reminder of the environmental and economic costs of major marine oil spills. One of the observations made by various delegates from Newfoundland and Labrador who observed clean-up operations in Galicia, Spain was that lack of on-land management of the oiled materials collected could be a major obstacle to response. The Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Industry Association (NEIA) members and staff had been involved in the first hand observations in Galicia and responded by initiating the November 2003 conference, Learning from Experience – Fostering Leadership. This international conference focussed specifically on waste management issues associated with major marine spills. The conference report is available from NEIA (<http://www.neia.org>). As a result of the conference, Environment Canada funded the development of a report to assist Newfoundland and Labrador to advance oiled waste management planning. The 2004 report, Toward An Oil Spill Waste Management Strategy for Newfoundland and Labrador, can be accessed via Environment Canada. NEIA has continued to support improvements in spill prevention and preparedness and are hosting a second focussed international oil spill conference/workshop in St. John's, November 28 –29, 2005. Experts and practitioners from government, industry and communities from Australia, the UK, the USA, Norway and Canada will address “An Integrated Approach to Oil Spill Prevention and Preparedness”. The conference program and registration information are found on <http://www.neia.org>.

(B) Juan de Fuca Big Eddy Ecosystem (Contributed by Alex Zellermeier)

The Juan de Fuca Eddy (“Big Eddy”) ecosystem off the west coast of Vancouver Island and the northwest coast of Washington’s Olympic Peninsula is a trophic hub supporting important populations of fish, corals, seabirds and marine mammals. A combination of massive outflows and prevailing winds, the eddy combines nutrient-rich upwellings to make this trans-boundary region one of North America’s richest marine ecosystems. An international, multi-organization steering committee, coordinated by the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS), is working to foster cooperation and awareness of the Big Eddy ecosystem. A “Western Juan de Fuca Symposium” was held in Sydney B.C. in 2004 to facilitate the exchange of scientific and traditional knowledge of the Big Eddy region and to discuss the possibilities for bilateral cooperation and stewardship in the area (the proceedings are available on the CPAWS Website listed below). A follow-up symposium for 2006 is in the planning stages to examine how a coordinated and ecosystem-based management of the region can be fostered so as to avoid user conflicts and to ensure the preservation of the ecological, economic and social values of the Big Eddy region. For more information, go to the CPAWS Website: http://www.cpawsbc.org/marine/sites/big_eddy.php or contact Jodi Stark at (604)685-7445 or jstark@cpawsbc.org.

(C) Support of community efforts to establish Marine Protected Areas in Newfoundland & Labrador

The Newfoundland and Labrador Trust, a small funding agency for investment in conservation in the province, is investing (together with other agencies) in three coastal communities and their efforts to establish Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). The three communities are: Eastport and Leading Tickles, both in Newfoundland; and Gilbert Bay in Labrador. All of these initiatives are grass-roots driven, with proposals being received from local community sponsor groups. The designation of MPAs in these locations will help protect their marine environments, while also instilling a sense of accomplishment and control in these and surrounding communities. In June 2005, DFO launched final public consultations for the candidate MPAs of Eastport and Gilbert Bay; and it is expected that these locations will become official MPAs later this year. For further information go to the Newfoundland and Labrador Legacy Nature Trust Website at: <http://www.legacynaturetrust.ca>.

(D) Tidal power demonstration project, Vancouver Island

The latest (August, 2005) issue of "Sea Technology" reports that Canada's first free-stream tidal power project is to be constructed at the Race Rocks Ecological Reserve offshore Vancouver Island. Specifically the rocky outcroppings that form the Race Rocks group of islands are located at the eastern entrance to the Strait of Juan de Fuca, midway between Victoria and Port Angeles, Washington State. The project involves a partnership of several agencies including Lester B. Pearson College of the Pacific (the environmental steward of Race Rocks), EnCana Corp., and Sustainable Development Technology Canada. According to the report, the tidal power project will enable the Reserve to "tap into surrounding ocean currents and convert tidal energy to electric power for its needs" using a 65kW free-stream tidal turbine generator. Currently diesel-powered generators are used. The undertaking is enabled by a \$3 million investment from the EnCana Environmental Innovation Fund. It is predicted that the low-impact system will be operational in 2006. For information go to: <http://www.racerocks.com>.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

This item comprises selected events of potential interest to members. The list is based on recommendations provided by members. Events indicated by an asterisk are repeats from previous lists. Your input for future issues is invited.

Oct. 16-21, 2005; 24th Submerged Lands Management Conference; St. John, US Virgin Islands; Organized by the US Virgin Islands Division of Coastal Zone Management. Information: <http://www.islc2005.org>

Oct. 19-20, 2005; OREG Symposium 2005; Sponsored by the Ocean Renewable Energy Group; St. John's, NF (NRC Institute of Ocean Technology). Information: <http://www.oreg.ca/news/OREGFallSymposium2005/>

*Oct. 23-27, 2005; First International Marine Protected Areas Congress; Geelong, Australia.

Information: <http://www.impacongress.org/>

Oct. 26-28, 2005; Conference on "Climate and Fisheries Impacts, Uncertainty and Responses of Ecosystems and Communities"; Victoria, BC; Sponsored by C-CIARN Fisheries.

Information: <http://www.fishclimate.ca><http://www.fishclimate.ca>

*Nov. 6-9, 2005; 12th Canadian Coastal Conference; Dartmouth, NS; Organized by the Canadian Coastal Science & Engineering Association.

Information: <http://www.ccc2005-ccl2005.ca>

Nov. 7, 2005; Workshop on Remote Sensing for Coastal Zone Research, Monitoring and Management; Dartmouth, NS (workshop being held in conjunction with the 12th Canadian Coastal Conference (see previous item)).

Information: gmanson@NRCan.gc.ca

*Nov. 22-26, 2005; Ecological Monitoring & Assessment Network Science Meeting (Theme: Monitoring and Evaluating Sustainability in Communities, Cities and Watersheds); Penticton, BC.

Information: <http://www.eman-rese.ca/eman/reports/meetings/national2005/>

Nov. 28-29, 2005; Oil Spill Conference (Theme: An Integrated Approach to Oil Spill Preparedness and Response); St. John's, NF; Presented by the Newfoundland & Labrador Environmental Industry Association (NEIA).

Information: <http://www.neia.org>

May 14-18, 2006; The Coastal Society's 20th International Conference (Theme: Charting a New Course – Shaping Solutions for the Coasts); St. Pete Beach, Florida.

Information: <http://www.thecoastalsociety.org/conference/tcs20/>

Jul. 5-8, 2006; 3rd National Stewardship Conference (Theme: Valuing Nature – Stewardship and Conservation in Canada); Corner Brook, NF.

Information: <http://www.stewardshipcanada.ca>

*Aug. 12-18, 2006; Coastal Zone Canada 2006 Conference; Coastal Zone Canada Association; Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories.

Information: <http://www.czc06.ca>

Sep. 3-8, 2006; 30th International Conference on Coastal Engineering; San Diego, California.

Information: <http://www.icce2006.com>

*Oct. 25-27, 2006; 7th BoFEP (Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership) Bay of Fundy Science Workshop; St. Andrews, NB; Hosted by the Huntsman Marine Science Centre. Information (& Call for Papers): http://www.bofep.org/2006_workshop.htm

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Questions and comments pertaining to this newsletter should be addressed to the editor, Brian Nicholls at nicholls@telusplanet.net.

Questions and comments pertaining to the Coastal Zone Canada Association should be addressed to the CZCA Secretariat at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography, P.O. Box 1006, Dartmouth , NS, B2Y 4A2 or email coastalz@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca.