

# COASTAL ZONE CANADA ASSOCIATION

## NEWSLETTER #32, FEBRUARY 2010

This newsletter, which is issued quarterly, is distributed by e-mail to members of the Coastal Zone Canada Association (CZCA), 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 visit the Association's Web site at: <http://www.czca-azcc.org>.

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### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Grant Gardner)**

The global environmental buzz last month focused on Copenhagen and the UN Conference on Climate Change (COP-15). Prior to COP-15, speculation on potential outcomes was rampant, and predictions ranged from utter failure to a new global accord. The results, unfortunately, were equivocal, and hard targets for climate change remediation remain elusive. Nevertheless, there were signs of greater recognition of the threats that climate change poses, particularly to developing countries, and it was heartening to see the engagement and enthusiasm in climate change awareness of so many youth in and around Copenhagen. How that will translate into policy, and how it will impact strategies to deal with global warming, remains to be seen.

The coastal ocean community watched developments in Copenhagen with considerable interest. The sea level rise that will accompany global warming will have immutable and transformational impacts on all issues related to coastal oceans – not least of which are the communities that dot our coastlines and in some cases could disappear entirely if sea level rise meets the maximum predictions.

It is fitting, then, that one of the 'side events' at COP-15 was 'Oceans Day in Copenhagen'. That event, organized by the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands; the Government of Indonesia; and the European Environment Agency, in collaboration with many other groups, provided an opportunity for participants at COP-15 to learn more about the links among climate change, ocean health, and human wellbeing, and to examine the implications of climate change for coastal nations. By linking high level officials and negotiators with coastal experts, and by doing so in an environment that included NGO's, interested members of the public, and the media, Oceans Day helped to inform the process that is slowly moving towards international agreement on the mitigation of climate change.

The discussions at Oceans Day also helped shape the agenda for the Global Oceans Conference 2010, to be held in Paris in May, which will address the broad themes of Ensuring Survival, Preserving Life, and Improving Governance. I look forward to reporting on that meeting in a future newsletter, and have no doubt that outputs from

both COP-15 and the Global Oceans Conference will inform the discussion that we will have in Charlottetown next summer at **COASTAL ZONE CANADA 2010**. The call for papers for that conference has now been released - see <http://www.gov.pe.ca/czc2010>, and the framework and themes developed by the Program Committee will ensure an informative and engaging conference that should be a 'must attend' event for all those involved in coastal zone management in Canada.

COP-15 generated important momentum towards agreement on climate change mitigation, even if no binding agreements were signed in Copenhagen. It is incumbent on all of us to continue our work towards a better understanding of coastal ecosystems and their management, so that we can ensure the policy makers have the best information available as they work towards strategies that will reduce the impact of global warming on coastal systems. The work of members of the Coastal Zone Canada Association is a key part of that process.

I trust that all of you had an enjoyable and relaxed holiday season, that you were able to take time for yourselves, your families, and your communities; reflect on the successes of 2009, and think about how to build on those successes in the coming year.

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## **COASTAL ZONE CANADA CONFERENCE and YOUTH FORUM 2010: HEALTHY OCEANS – STRONG COASTAL COMMUNITIES “VOICES FOR CHANGE”**

**July 25-29, 2010, University of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown, PEI**

Conference Website: [www.gov.pe.ca/czc2010](http://www.gov.pe.ca/czc2010)

Conference Email: [czc2010@gov.pe.ca](mailto:czc2010@gov.pe.ca)

The Local Organizing Committee and the Program Committee have been working to advance the planning for the upcoming 2010 CZCA Conference and Youth Forum. Organizers are very excited about delivering an innovative and diverse conference agenda consisting of keynote speakers, keynote panel sessions, scientific paper presentations, workshops, discussion cafes, and coastal fieldtrips around Prince Edward Island.

### Conference Notices:

The deadline for abstract submissions has been extended to **February 26, 2010**

The early registration fee has been extended to **April 15, 2010**

### Program Highlights:

Theme 1: Governing Voices: the challenges of coastal management in Canada

Theme 2: Bridging Voices: linking land and ocean planning and management

Theme 3: Local Voices: at the front line – strengthening coastal communities

Theme 4: Voices for the Future: planning for the impacts of climate change

#### PEI Coastal Policy Planning Charrette:

A charrette is a problem-oriented multi-participant session that provides an intensive work forum to collaboratively tackle specific issues in planning and design. The charrette process provides the opportunity to facilitate understanding of differing values and perspectives, to incorporate a rich array of experience and skills, and to deliver consensus on complex issues. Participants will work closely with each other and with members of the PEI community to begin development of a coastal policy for the Island. The charrette sessions will be highly structured and intensely focused on the production of useful deliverables and collaborative solutions.

#### Information Management for Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management (ICOM) Workshop

Please check the conference website at [www.gov.pe.ca/czc2010](http://www.gov.pe.ca/czc2010) on a regular basis for program and conference updates.

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### **ROUNDTABLE OF OCEAN INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION LEADERS TO CONVENE AT SUSTAINABLE OCEAN SUMMIT (Belfast, June 2010)**

International associations representing a broad range of ocean industries will meet in the inaugural "Roundtable of Ocean Industry Association Leaders," to be held as the opening plenary of the Sustainable Ocean Summit in Belfast (June 15-17, 2010). The Roundtable is designed as a forum for the diverse international ocean business community to identify the needs and opportunities for industry leadership and collaboration on cross-cutting ocean stewardship issues.

The Roundtable is part of the Sustainable Ocean Summit - the first global cross-sectoral ocean sustainability conference bringing together a wide variety of marine industries, including shipping, oil and gas, aquaculture, tourism, fisheries, ports, dredging, mining, tankers, maritime finance and insurance, offshore renewable energy, and other ocean-related industries.

Sustainable Ocean Summit sessions will focus on priority cross-sectoral ocean industry issues, including the Arctic Ocean; climate change and ocean science; biosecurity and invasive species; fisheries and aquaculture interaction with other industries; the role of the finance, insurance and legal sectors in sustainability; offshore renewable energy interaction with other industries; sustainable ports; sound and ship strike impacts on marine mammals; marine debris; decommissioning ships and structures; carbon capture and storage; sustainable marine tourism; environmental education for mariners; and the ocean economy.

For more information, visit: [http://www.oceancouncil.org/site/pdfs/SOS\\_General\\_22-10-09.pdf](http://www.oceancouncil.org/site/pdfs/SOS_General_22-10-09.pdf).

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## **SPECIAL MARINE AREAS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR: AREAS OF INTEREST IN OUR MARINE BACKYARD**

Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society's Newfoundland and Labrador Chapter recently announced the release of a marine guide titled *Special Marine Areas in Newfoundland and Labrador: Areas of Interest in our Marine Backyard*. This guide outlines a number of areas that are of particular interest from ecological, social or economic perspectives. It is the first document to pull together research conducted by governments, academics, non-governmental organizations and community members about important marine and coastal areas in the province. A total of 73 sites are illustrated in this marine guide. Each summary outlines a site description, including descriptions of marine habitats, marine wildlife, special features, existing protection and current or potential threats in each site. Although the sites differ, there are several common concerns such as potential effects of oil and gas development and the use of non-selective fishing gear. The marine guide provides an explanation of why it is important to protect such areas and how to reduce and eliminate negative impacts on these marine environments. The guide promotes the use of public education and engagement as tools to aid in the conservation and preservation of these marine areas. Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society's Newfoundland and Labrador Chapter is seeking input and feedback to help refine this guide. For more information visit: <http://cpawsnl.org/2009/07/cpaws-nl-releases-the-special.php>.

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### **SHORT NEWS ITEMS**

#### **(A) Call for Papers: Coastal Zone Canada 2010**

The deadline for submitting abstracts to Coastal Zone Canada 2010 has recently been extended to February 26, 2010. This conference is scheduled for July 25-29, 2010 in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. The theme is 'Healthy Oceans - Strong Coastal Communities'. Sub-themes include: the Challenges of coastal management in Canada; Linking land and ocean planning and management; Strengthening coastal communities; Planning for the impacts of climate change; Coastal policy planning for PEI. For more information, please visit: <http://www.gov.pe.ca/czc2010>.

#### **(B) Framework for Canada's National Network of Marine Protected Areas**

Canada is committed to establishing, by 2012, a national network of marine protected areas, in line with national and international commitments. To provide the policy direction for this initiative, Fisheries and Oceans Canada with its partner federal, provincial and territorial government agencies with authority to protect marine areas is drafting a *Framework for Canada's National Network of Marine Protected Areas*. The draft Framework outlines the overarching vision, goals and objectives of the national network; establishes the design properties and eligibility criteria for which areas will contribute to the network; describes the governance structure; and otherwise provides the guidance necessary to proceed with network planning at the regional level in a nationally consistent manner. The draft Framework and related information will soon be

posted on a web site for public review. The URL address for the Framework will be accessible through: <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/> .

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### **(C) Legislating Integrated Coastal Zone Management: Trends and Strategies for Coastal Law-Making**

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council has recently awarded CZCA Board Member Aldo Chircop, JSD, Dalhousie Law School, with a 3 year grant valued at CAD \$ 77,145. The objective of this research is to identify international trends and mainstream practices in national legislation concerning integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) and develop options for ICZM model legislative strategies. This research project will undertake a comparative study of ICZM legislation over a three-year period. It is expected to contribute to a better understanding of the role, opportunities and constraints of this type of legislation in the multidisciplinary scholarly community engaged in this field. In identifying “good practice” and potential alternative strategies for ICZM legislation, this project will be of particular interest and utility to drafters of national and sub-national legislation in countries with active ICZM activities, international donor institutions and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations promoting ocean governance, legislative modernization and legal capacity-building. The project includes scholarships for masters degree students and undergraduate student research assistance.

### **(D) Commercial Sand Mining Regulations Revoked in Prince Edward Island**

The Government of Prince Edward Island has approved regulatory changes to stop commercial sand mining on Island beaches. “The Island’s beaches are important areas and critically important in the protection of our shorelines from erosion. Commercial sand removal undermines the ability of beaches to protect shores from water and wave damage,” said Environment, Energy and Forestry Minister Richard Brown. “By limiting sand removal to small amounts intended for personal use, we will help sustain the health of our shorelines.” For more information:

<http://www.gov.pe.ca/news/index.php3?number=news&dept=&newsnumber=6656&lang=E>.

### **(E) U.S. Closes Arctic Waters to Industrial Fishing**

New regulations close all U.S. waters north of Alaska’s Bering Strait to commercial fishing to allow time for more science to assess the health of Arctic ocean ecosystems and the potential impacts of large-scale fishing. These regulations, which became effective on December 3, 2009, protect almost 200,000 square miles of U.S. Arctic waters from industrial fishing, but do not affect subsistence fishing in the region. The

U.S. State Department is in discussions with other Arctic nations to expand these same fishing protections across international boundaries. These Arctic fishing regulations set a worldwide precedent of putting management in place before commercial fishing occurs. For more information: <http://na.oceana.org/en/news-media/press-center/press-releases/us-closes-arctic-waters-to-industrial-fishing>

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## **UPCOMING CONFERENCES, KEY MEETINGS AND DEADLINES**

February 17, 2010: Deadline for submitting abstracts - "3rd Joint Congress of the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (CMOS) and the Canadian Geophysical Union (CGU)", Ottawa, Ontario (May 31 - June 4, 2010). For more information: <http://www.cmos.ca/congress2010/indexe.html>

February 22-26, 2010: "2010 Ocean Sciences Meeting", Portland, Oregon. For more information: <http://www.agu.org/meetings/os10/>

February 26, 2010: Deadline for abstracts - Coastal Zone Canada 2010 Conference and Youth Forum: Healthy Oceans – Strong Coastal Communities. For more Information: <http://www.gov.pe.ca/czc2010/>

February 26-27, 2010: "17th Annual Conference of the Fishermen and Scientists Research Society", Truro, Nova Scotia. For more information: <http://www.fsrns.ca/events/ac2010.html>

March 1-5, 2010: "Aquaculture 2010", San Diego, California. For more information: <https://www.was.org/WasMeetings/meetings/Default.aspx?code=AQ2010>

March 6-10, 2010: "International Conference on Coastal Zone Management of River Deltas and Low Land Coastlines", Alexandria, Egypt. For more information: <http://www.nwrc-egypt.info>

March 31, 2010: Deadline - Ocean Yearbook Call for Papers. Research articles and think-pieces on ocean governance, living resources, non-living ocean resources, ocean acidification, ocean renewable energy, transportation and communications, environment and coastal management, maritime security, military activities, regional developments, training and education, and ocean polar issues will be considered. For more information: [http://law.dal.ca/Files/MEL\\_Institute/OYB/OYB\\_2009/Call\\_For\\_Papers\\_Volume\\_25-2009.pdf](http://law.dal.ca/Files/MEL_Institute/OYB/OYB_2009/Call_For_Papers_Volume_25-2009.pdf)

May 3-7, 2010: "Fifth Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts and Islands", Paris. For more information: <http://www.globaloceans.org/New%20Leena%201/New%20Leena%201/leena/index.htm>

May 15, 2010: Deadline - Ocean Yearbook Call for Papers (Student Competition). For more information:

[http://law.dal.ca/Files/MEL\\_Institute/OYB/OYB\\_2009/Student\\_Prize\\_2010.pdf](http://law.dal.ca/Files/MEL_Institute/OYB/OYB_2009/Student_Prize_2010.pdf)

June 6 - 9, 2010: "World Conference on Disaster Management", Toronto. For more information: <http://www.wcdm.org/Toronto/conference-at-a-glance.html>

**July 25-29, 2010: Coastal Zone Canada 2010 Conference and Youth Forum: Healthy Oceans – Strong Coastal Communities. For more Information:**

<http://www.gov.pe.ca/czc2010/>

September 7-10, 2010: "California and the World Ocean 2010 Conference", San Francisco, California. For more information:

<http://www.cce.csus.edu/conferences/cnra/cwo2010/index.htm>

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