



ACZISC

***Atlantic Coastal Zone
Information Steering Committee***



2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT



ACZISC SECRETARIAT

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*The **ACZISC 2009-2010 Annual Report** is available in PDF format on the ACZISC website at <http://aczisc.dal.ca/docs-ACZISC.htm> and in hard-copy from the ACZISC Secretariat – email aczisc@dal.ca.*

30 June 2010

To the Members of the ACZISC and the Association:

It is with pleasure that the ACZISC Secretariat presents the **ACZISC 2009-2010 Annual Report**. I would like to highlight a number of items in the report:

- **Informing the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management (ICOM) community of practice and networking with them** remained the focus of the ACZISC, primarily via the **ACZISC meetings and workshops**, the **ACZISC Coastal Update e-newsletter** and the **website**.
- The ACZISC continued to make progress in the ongoing **establishment and development of COINAtlantic - the Coastal and Ocean Information Network** - to facilitate **access to data and information in support of the ICOM community of practice** in Atlantic Canada.
- Planning was initiated to **merge and enhance the ACZISC and COINAtlantic websites** to provide a **one-stop online location** to support the information needs of ICOM practitioners.
- **Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada** was welcomed as a member of the ACZISC.
- The ACZISC continued to provide **staff support for the Operational Centre of the International Ocean Institute in Canada**, based at Dalhousie University.
- As a result of the pending staff retirements, an **ACZISC Transition Planning Team** was established to formulate a succession plan.

Finally, I would like to thank Members for their continued and enthusiastic support of the ACZISC and its activities. **We look forward to 2010-2011 !**

Yours sincerely,

Michael J.A. Butler
Director, ACZISC Secretariat and
President, ACZISC Association

ACZISC 2009-2010 Annual Report

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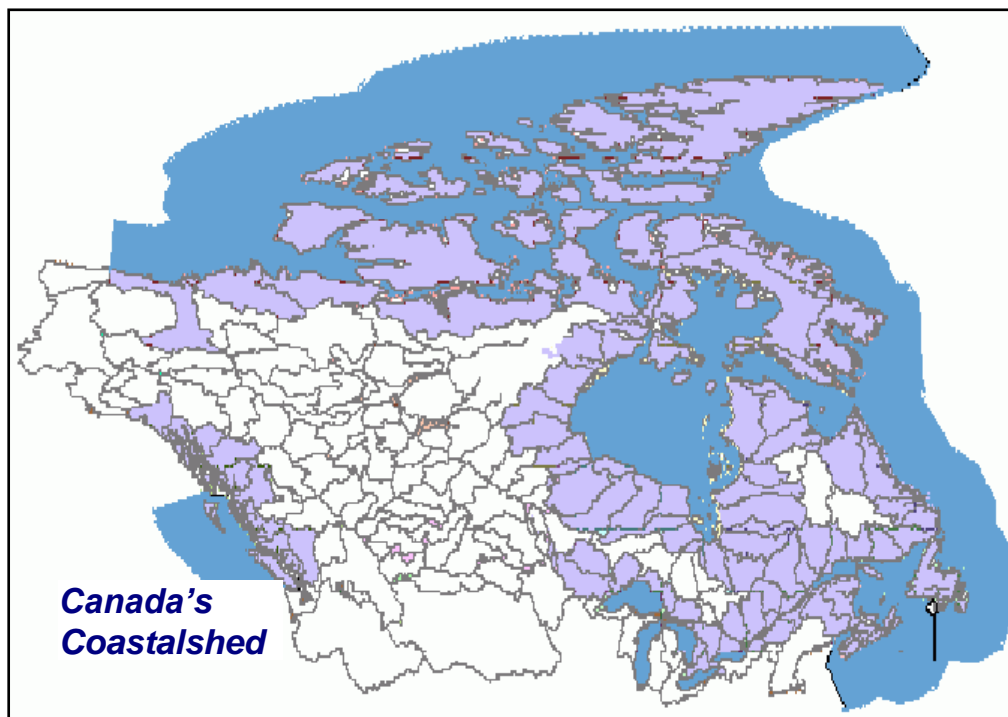
THE ACZISC

The ACZISC celebrated its **18th anniversary in January 2010**. The Committee was established in 1992, following the recommendation of the participants of a Workshop organized by a former agency of the Council of Maritime Premiers and held in Amherst, Nova Scotia. The ACZISC works to **foster cooperation in Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management, Coastal Mapping and Geomatics in Atlantic Canada**. The ACZISC Strategic Thrusts are included in Appendix 1 (page 20).

Operational Context

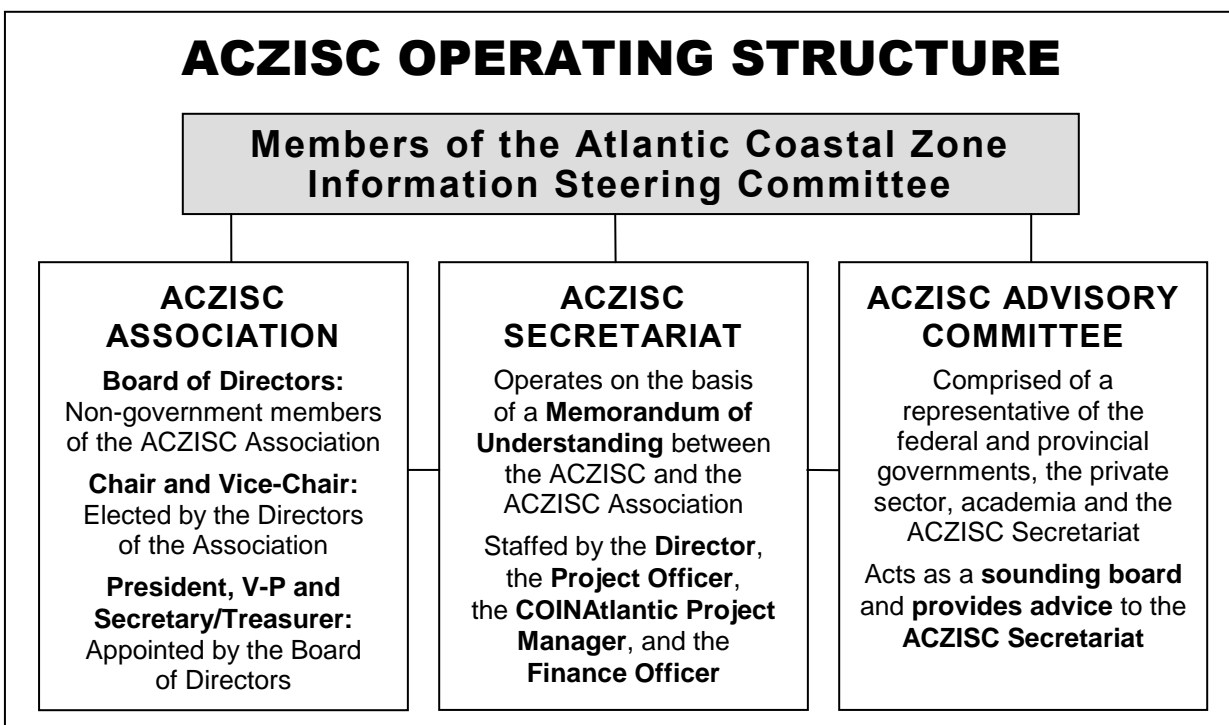
Coastal and ocean resources and activities make significant contributions to the economies of the Atlantic Provinces. A selection of studies on the value of these resources is available at <http://aczisc.dal.ca/docs.htm>.

The coastal zone encompasses a multitude of activities and the management of its resources overlaps several jurisdictions and involves multiple stakeholders. In Atlantic Canada, the coastal land-water interface, *i.e.* the “coastalshed”, is exposed increasingly to a wide variety of physical, biological and chemical stresses that threaten the region’s economic, social and ecological sustainability. **Inter-governmental and inter-agency cooperation is therefore essential for managing the coastal zone**, as is **access to and the use of information concerning coastalsheds**. The ACZISC advocates and facilitates this process.



OPERATING STRUCTURE

The **ACZISC Operating Structure** consists of four major components: the **Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee**, the **ACZISC Association**, the **ACZISC Advisory Committee** and the **ACZISC Secretariat**. The following schematic describes the Operating Structure:



The Committee



ACZISC members and other participants, ACZISC Meeting, September 2009, St. John's, NL

Membership in the ACZISC is **inter-agency, multi-sectoral, and multi-disciplinary**. ACZISC members represent governments and organizations which have a mandate for and can contribute to the development, coordination and implementation of ICOM. This includes policy, mechanisms and tools to facilitate access by practitioners to coastalshd data and information.

The **ACZISC functions as a 'horizontal mechanism'** to implement its mandate. It was used as a case study in two reports published by the Government of Canada to document the challenges of operating successful horizontal and collaborative initiatives and key lessons learned:

- ***Using Horizontal Tools to Work Across Boundaries: Lesson Learned and Signposts of Success***, published by the Canadian Centre for Management Development – see http://www.cspc-efpc.gc.ca/pbp/pub/pdfs/P106_e.pdf.
- ***Managing Collaborative Arrangements: A Guide for Regional Managers***, published by the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat – see <http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/fcer-cfre/documents/mca-gec/mca-gec-eng.pdf>.

In 2009-2010, membership included the four Atlantic Provinces, eleven federal departments and agencies, NGOs, community organizations, academia and the private sector. See Appendix 2 on pages 21 and 22 for a detailed list of ACZISC members, as of March 2010.

This year the ACZISC welcomed **Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada** as a member of the ACZISC.

Representation on the ACZISC in 2009-2010 was as follows:

- **ATLANTIC PROVINCES:**

New Brunswick, represented by the Departments of Agriculture and Aquaculture; Environment; and Fisheries

Newfoundland and Labrador, represented by the Departments of Environment and Conservation; Fisheries and Aquaculture; and Natural Resources

Nova Scotia, represented by the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture; and Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations

Prince Edward Island, represented by the Departments of Finance and Municipal Affairs; and Fisheries, Aquaculture and Rural Development

- **FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES:**

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, represented by the Agri-Environment Services Branch

Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, represented by the Policy, Advocacy and Coordination Program

Environment Canada, represented by the Strategic Integration Office and the Sustainable Communities and Ecosystems Division

Fisheries and Oceans Canada, represented by the Canadian Hydrographic Service - Atlantic; the Oceans and Science Branch of the Gulf Region; and the Oceans, Habitat and Species at Risk Branch of the Maritimes and Newfoundland and Labrador Regions

Health Canada, represented by Healthy Environments and Consumer Safety

Industry Canada, represented by Policy, Analysis and Intelligence Branch

National Defence, represented by the Canadian Forces Maritime Warfare Centre; and Marant Formation Environment

Natural Resources Canada, represented by GeoConnections; the Geological Survey of Canada - Atlantic; and the Surveyor General Branch

Parks Canada Agency, represented by the Atlantic Services Centre

Public Works and Government Services Canada, represented by Real Property Geomatics Services

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

- **ACADEMIA:**
Represented by the **Atlantic Provinces Council on the Sciences**
- **COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:**
Represented by the **Atlantic Coastal Action Program**; the **Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership**; and the **Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Coalition on Sustainability**
- **PRIVATE SECTOR:**
Includes personnel from **CEF Consultants**, the **EIT Group**, and **Interpretation Resources Inc**, who serve on the ACZISC Association Board of Directors
- **OTHER AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS:**
Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board; **Marine Institute**; **Coastal Zone Canada Association**; **Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Industry Association**; and the **Ocean Science and Technology Partnership**

ACZISC Association

In November 2003, the ACZISC **established the ACZISC Association to act as the legal entity for the ACZISC**. The Association is registered as a not-for-profit organization under the Nova Scotia Societies Act. The objects of the Society are listed in Appendix 3 (page 23).

The **ACZISC Association Board of Directors** is composed of non-government members of the ACZISC Committee. It is chaired by Brent Rowley, EIT Group. The other members of the Board are: Norval Collins, CEF Consultants; Brad Fay, Interpretation Resources Inc; Grant Gardner, Memorial University; and Randy Gillespie, Marine Institute.

Meetings of the Board of Directors were organized and held on 6 May 2009 and on 7 January 2010. The **4th Annual General Meeting** of the Association was held on 22 January 2009 in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. The **5th Annual General Meeting** is being planned for 12 May 2010, also in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

ACZISC Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee was established in 1995 **to provide advice on issues** related to: the effective administration and operation of the Secretariat and ACZISC; the identification and securement of funding for the Secretariat and ACZISC programs; and the comprehensiveness of ACZISC membership.

The members of the ACZISC Advisory Committee are: Justin Huston, Chair (provincial representative); Grant Gardner (academic representative); Tim Hall (federal representative); Brent Rowley (private sector representative); and Michael Butler (ACZISC Secretariat). The Secretariat communicates with the Advisory Committee on an as-needed basis.

ACZISC Secretariat

The ACZISC Secretariat operates on the basis of a **Memorandum of Understanding** between the ACZISC Committee and the ACZISC Association. The primary **function, roles and responsibilities** of the Secretariat are:

- to function as the executing agency for all the decisions of the ACZISC and its bodies and the Association and its Board of Directors
- to convene the meetings of the ACZISC and its bodies
- and to convene the meetings of the Association.

The offices of the ACZISC Secretariat are located in **Ocean House** at 1226 LeMarchant Street in Halifax, Nova Scotia, on the campus of Dalhousie University. The Secretariat is staffed by Michael Butler (Director), Claudette LeBlanc (Project Officer), Jennifer Barr (Finance Officer), and Paul Boudreau (COINAtlantic Project Manager).



In January 2010, Michael Butler and Claudette LeBlanc announced their retirement from the ACZISC Secretariat effective 31 August 2010. An ACZISC Transition Planning Team was established. The Team met on a number of occasions to consider: ACZISC products and services; the future location of the Secretariat; and a business case and funding model. Recommendations were prepared for presentation to ACZISC members at the 60th meeting of the ACZISC scheduled for 12-13 May 2010 in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

The ACZISC Transition Planning Team consisted of: Brad Fay, Jacques Grondin, Tim Hall, Matthew Hardy, Larry Hildebrand, Justin Huston, Brent Rowley, Rob Thompson and the Secretariat staff: Michael Butler, Claudette LeBlanc, Jennifer Barr and Paul Boudreau.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The 2009-2010 operating budget for the ACZISC Association was approximately \$178K. The major budget items were staffing, fees for administrative services and travel.

The **2009-2010 ACZISC Association Financial Report**, prepared by Jennifer Barr, Secretary/Treasurer, ACZISC Association, is as follows:

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 2008-2009 \$ 27,257

REVENUE

Dues:

Newfoundland and Labrador	6,600
Nova Scotia	20,000
Prince Edward Island	5,000
Federal Departments	78,495
Outstanding 2008-2009 dues	7,500

Contract Revenues:

IOI-Canada	50,000
GeoConnections	21,152
Other	8,495

TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 197,242
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EXPENSES

Staffing	141,314
Administrative Services	16,521
Travel	13,545
Telephone / Fax / Email	1,460
Office Supplies	1,331
Secretariat Contract Expenses	906
Equipment	330
Photocopying	272
Courier and Postage	142
Conferences	80
Interest	228
ACZISC Association	1,628

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 177,757
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BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD TO 2010-2011	\$ 46,742
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In-kind contributions from Dalhousie University	\$ 24,000
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ACTIVITIES IN 2009-2010

The 2009-2010 ACZISC Workplan was implemented by the Secretariat with the assistance of ACZISC members and associates. As in previous years, the Workplan continued to emphasize **information dissemination and networking**, primarily via the **ACZISC meetings and workshops**, the **Coastal Update e-newsletter**, the **ACZISC website** and **COINAtlantic** - the **Coastal and Ocean Information Network for Atlantic Canada**. The ACZISC also continued to focus on and engage the **Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management** community of practice in Atlantic Canada.

Information Dissemination and Networking

● *ACZISC Meetings*

As in previous years, **three ACZISC meetings were held in 2009-2010 in the Atlantic provincial capitals by rotation**. The meetings were attended by members and by associates from various sectors, including government departments and agencies, NGOs, academia, community groups and the private sector, and by university students.



The ACZISC meetings were held in **Charlottetown, PEI** on 13-14 May 2009; in **St. John's, NL** on 23-24 September 2009; and in **Fredericton, NB** on 20-21 January 2010.

In addition to the Administration section and the Roundtable Review of Coastal Activities, the ACZISC meetings include focused **presentations with discussions on topics relevant to ICOM, geomatics and coastal mapping**. The presentations made in 2009-2010 were posted on the ACZISC website at <http://aczisc.dal.ca/docs-ACZISC.htm>. The presentations / presenters were as follows:

ACZISC MEETING	PRESENTATION TITLE	PRESENTER
13-14 May 2009, Charlottetown	The Work of the Nature Conservancy in Atlantic Canada	Diane Griffin, Nature Conservancy
	Prince Edward Island's Acquisition of LiDAR Data	Mary Lynn McCourt, PEI Environment, Energy and Forestry
	COINAtlantic Concept and Demonstration	Paul Boudreau, ACZISC Secretariat
	Regional Vulnerability from a Geospatial Perspective	Roland Cormier, DFO Gulf Region
	Planning for Coastal Zone Canada 2010	Kelly Cantelo, PEI Fisheries, Aquaculture and Rural Development
23-24 September 2009, St. John's	Coastal Connections – Community Interaction	Ratana Chuenpagdee, Memorial University
	Canadian Healthy Oceans Network (CHONe)	Paul Snelgrove, Memorial University
	Newfoundland and Labrador's Ocean Technology Sector Strategy	Neil Gall, NL Innovation, Trade and Rural Development
	Marine Cadastre - the Next Steps	Jacques Grondin, Natural Resources Canada
20-21 January 2010, Fredericton	Power Sharing in the Coastal Zone: Shifting Roles of Government in Community-based Coastal Management	Larry Hildebrand, Environment Canada
	Finding, Getting, and Using Indicator Data for the Gulf of Maine	Christine Tilburg, Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment
	Overview of the State of Nova Scotia's Coast Report	Justin Huston, NS Fisheries and Aquaculture
	New Brunswick's SDI Initiative - GeoNB	Bernie Connors, Service NB
	COINAtlantic Update	Paul Boudreau, ACZISC Secretariat

The **Minutes of ACZISC meetings** and the **Coastal Activities** reports, based on the roundtable components of ACZISC meetings, are a **valuable information resource for ICOM and geomatics personnel**. In addition to being made available to meeting participants, the minutes and coastal activities reports for 2009-2010 were made **widely available via the ACZISC website at <http://aczisc.dal.ca/docs-ACZISC.htm>**.

● **ACZISC Coastal Update e-newsletter**

The Coastal Update e-newsletter contains brief **items related to ICOM, geomatics and coastal mapping**, with links and/or contacts for further information. These items relate to projects and programs; manuals, reports, proceedings; research and development activities; and conferences, workshops and other events.

In 2009-2010, the ACZISC Coastal Update was prepared and emailed each month by the Secretariat **to ACZISC members and to more than 5,400 associates**. Approximately 75% of the recipients are from Canada and the remainder are from numerous countries worldwide. The distribution list is composed of personnel from all sectors, including: governments at the federal, provincial/territorial/state and local levels; academia; First Nations; the private sector; students and teachers; NGOs; foundations; associations; the media; and international organizations.

The Coastal Update, including subscriber feedback, is posted at <http://aczisc.dal.ca/update.htm>.

"Many thanks for sending me the monthly ACZISC Coastal Updates! I circulate them widely here in Cork to our taught masters' degree students and also to researchers at the Coastal and Marine Resources Centre. I know from feedback received that the Update has become a very useful resource on a number of fronts."

Darius Bartlett, Department of Geography, University College Cork

"Each time I receive the ACZISC Coastal Update, I am struck at what a valuable time-saving tool it is in terms of raising awareness of the wealth of reports and activities occurring in the coastal and ocean environments. Thank you for doing this."

*Lucia Fanning, Director,
Marine Affairs Program,
Dalhousie University*

● **ACZISC Website**

The ACZISC website - <http://aczisc.dal.ca> - is updated at a minimum of twice weekly. It includes: information about the ACZISC; ACZISC publications; the Coastal Update e-newsletter; a selection of Coastal Resource and Habitat Inventories; and links to other ICOM-related resources.

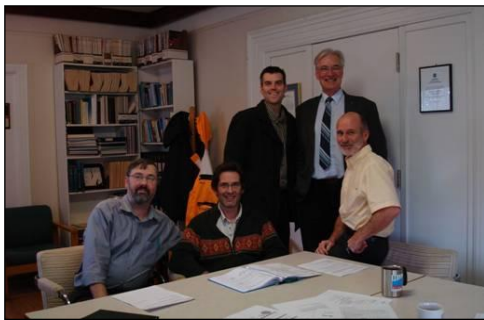
Planning was initiated in 2009 to **merge and enhance the ACZISC and COINAtlantic websites** to provide a **one-stop online location** to support the information needs of ICOM practitioners. A Workshop was organized and held at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia on 26 August, 2009 to consider the development of a strategy, including goals, objectives, user groups, and collaborative

approaches. This was followed by a Workshop held in conjunction with ACZISC Meeting #59 (20-21 January 2010, Fredericton, NB) to consider the convergence of the ACZISC website, COINAtlantic and the information needs of the ICOM community of practice. Another Workshop is being organized for April 2010 to finalize the information content of the website and to review research and development associated with the COINAtlantic search function.

● **COINAtlantic**

COINAtlantic - the **Coastal and Ocean Information Network for Atlantic Canada** - is an initiative of the ACZISC. The goal is to develop, implement and sustain a network of data providers and users to provide secure access to data, information and applications **in support of Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management** - for details, see <http://COINAtlantic.ca>.

In 2009-2010, the **implementation of Phase 1 of the COINAtlantic network was completed**, with the support of ACZISC members and with **financial support from GeoConnections** via a Collaboration Agreement between GeoConnections and the ACZISC Association.



A Joint Project Agreement (JPA) was signed in 2008 between the ACZISC Association and the Oceans, Habitat and Species at Risk Branch of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region with regard to **staffing for COINAtlantic**. The JPA was extended to 31 March 2010 and Paul Boudreau continued to serve as the COINAtlantic Project Manager; he is based at the ACZISC Secretariat at Dalhousie University.

The following are the major activities that took place in 2009-2010 with regard to the development and implementation of COINAtlantic:

- The ACZISC/GeoConnections Collaboration Agreement concluded as of 30 September 2009.
- Version 2 of the COINAtlantic Web Mapping and Use Tracking Applications were developed, implemented and operationalized. A map gallery was added.
- The identification of resources was initiated for ongoing COINAtlantic operations and project management in 2010-2011.
- A workshop on “The Rights Stuff: Towards a Marine Cadastre for St. Margaret’s Bay” was organized and delivered, in collaboration with the University of New Brunswick. The Workshop was held on 6 July 2009 in Lower Tantallon, NS.
- A meeting was organized and delivered, in collaboration with GeoConnections, to discuss Positioning Canada's Information Infrastructure for Effective Watershed, Coastal and Ocean Management. The meeting was held on 16 September 2009 in the offices of Natural Resources Canada in Ottawa, ON.

- COINAtlantic facilitated an international ad hoc Team investigating geospatial search approaches using GoogleEarth.
- COINAtlantic Management Committee meetings were held monthly.
- COINAtlantic Workshops were organized and held on 14 May 2009 in Charlottetown, PEI; and 24 September 2009 in St. John's, NL, in conjunction with the ACZISC meetings.
- The COINAtlantic Project Manager presented and/or participated in a number of other workshops and events:
 - Marine Affairs Program, Dalhousie University, 1 April 2009, Halifax, NS
 - NL Provincial Coastal and Ocean Network (PCON), 2 April 2009, St. John's, NL
 - NS Provincial Ocean Network (PON), 28 April 2009, Halifax, NS
 - 8th BoFEP Science Workshop, 26 May 2009, Wolfville, NS
 - Geomatics Atlantic, 8 June 2009, Wolfville, NS
 - NGO Capacity Building Planning meeting, 14 July 2009, Truro, NS
 - Coastal Zone 09, 19 July 2009, Boston, Mass
 - Environmental Services Association of NS (ESANS), 25 Aug 2009, Halifax, NS
 - Canadian Oceans NGO Meeting, 17 Sept 2009, Ottawa, ON
 - Gulf of Maine Symposium, 4-9 Oct 2009, St. Andrews, NB
 - ESSIM Stakeholders Advisory Committee, 14 Oct 2009, Halifax, NS
 - OMRN Conference, 23 Oct 2009, Ottawa, ON
 - EC RDG and senior directors, 19 Nov 2009, Dartmouth, NS
 - Regional Committee on Coastal and Ocean Management (RCCOM), 24 Nov 2009, Dartmouth, NS
 - Meeting of the Marine Cadastre Task Group, 19 Jan 2010, Fredericton, NB
 - Workshop on Scenario-Based Planning for a Changing Climate in the Bras d'Or Ecosystem, 28-29 Jan 2010, Sydney, NS
 - Meeting to discuss collaborative funding for COINAtlantic, Dartmouth, 19 Feb 2010
 - Policy Research Initiative (PRI) Workshop on the Integration of Place-based Tools into the Policy Process, 23-23 Feb 2010, Ottawa, ON
 - Workshop on Geospatial Risk Characterization, 24-26 Feb 2010, Dartmouth, NS
 - Meeting of the Marine Cadastre Task Force, 30 Mar 2010, Ottawa, ON.

Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management

The ACZISC ICOM Working Group advocates the implementation of integrated coastal and ocean management (ICOM) in Atlantic Canada. In addition it promotes collaboration with regard to ICOM opportunities and activities, with particular reference to policy issues. In 2009-2010, the ICOM Working Group was co-chaired by Tim Hall, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Maritimes Region and Justin Huston, NS Dept of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

ICOM Working Group meetings were organized and held on 14 May 2009 in Charlottetown, PEI and 24 Sept 2009 in St. John's, NL in conjunction with the ACZISC meetings.

The ICOM Working Group participated actively in planning to **merge and enhance the ACZISC and COINAtlantic websites** to provide a **one-stop online location** to support the information needs of ICOM practitioners.

ICOM Working Group members also participated in activities associated with the ongoing development and implementation of COINAtlantic to **support secure access to data, information and applications** in support of integrated coastal and ocean management ICOM.

Activities Generating Revenue for the ACZISC

The major source of contract revenue for the ACZISC in 2009-2010 was a contract with the IOI-Canada Operational Centre for Michael Butler, the half-time Director of the ACZISC Secretariat, to continue serving as the half-time Director of IOI-Canada. The ACZISC Secretariat is housed in IOI-Canada's facilities at Ocean House on the Dalhousie University campus.

IOI-Canada's primary responsibility is the organization and delivery of the annual **Training Programme on Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management** at the University. The 8-week Programme is specifically designed to benefit mid-career professionals from developing countries who are responsible for some aspect of marine management/ocean governance.

The **2009 Training Programme on Ocean Governance** was held from 20 May to 17 July. A wide range of academics, government personnel and practitioners, **including several ACZISC members and associates**, were invited to present on their area of expertise to the participants. The **development of the 2010 Training Programme**, the 30th in the series, was initiated. The 2010 Programme is scheduled from 19 May to 16 July - <http://internationaloceaninstitute.dal.ca>.

Collaboration with Other Programs

The participation of the ACZISC Secretariat and Members in the following programs, in executive and other roles, has significantly increased inter-program cooperation and coordination in Atlantic Canada:

● *Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership*

BoFEP is a "Virtual Institute" of individuals and groups that **promote the integrity, vitality, biodiversity and productivity** of the Bay of Fundy Ecosystem, and the **social well-being and economic sustainability** of its coastal communities. BoFEP also facilitates communication and cooperation among interested individuals and organizations. BoFEP celebrated its 15th anniversary in 2010 - <http://www.bofep.org>.

The Bay of Fundy Science workshops, organized every two years, are a major BoFEP activity. The 8th **Bay of Fundy Science Workshop** was held on 26-29 May 2009 in Wolfville, NS. The theme for the Workshop was *Resource Development and Its Implications in the Bay of Fundy and Gulf of Maine*. Presentations were made by a number of ACZISC members and the Secretariat staff. The **Workshop Proceedings** are available at http://www.bofep.org/bofep_workshops.htm.

● *GeoConnections and the CGDI*

GeoConnections is a national partnership program established to develop the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI). The **CGDI provides Canadians with on-demand access to geographic information** (e.g., maps, satellite images) and **related services and applications** in support of sound decision making - <http://www.cgdi.gc.ca>.

The first phase of the GeoConnections program (1999-2005) focused on developing policies, standards, technologies and partnerships. The second phase (2005-2010) supported projects that enable decision-makers to use location-based information to benefit public health, safety and security, the environment, and Aboriginal communities. A proposal is under development to extend the GeoConnections program beyond 2010-2011 but a decision is not expected until the late spring of 2010.

In addition to providing 'direct' financial support for COINAtlantic in 2008-2010, GeoConnections funded a number of initiatives which will **contribute significantly to the information base being accessed by COINAtlantic users** in support of ICOM in Atlantic Canada.

● ***Coastal Zone Canada Association***

The Coastal Zone Canada Association is a **non-profit society of coastal zone management professionals and others interested in and supportive of ICM goals**. The CZCA was established in 1993 by members of the ACZISC and other individuals to organize and deliver the inaugural CZC '94 Conference in Halifax and its successor biennial conferences - <http://www.czca-azcc.org>.

The **Coastal Zone Canada 2008 Conference** was held on 25-29 May 2008 in Vancouver, BC. Several ACZISC members were in attendance. The **Coastal Zone Canada 2010 Conference** is scheduled for 25-29 July 2010 in Charlottetown, PEI. The theme is *Healthy Oceans - Strong Coastal Communities: Voices for Change*. Presentations on Conference planning are made on a regular basis at the ACZISC meetings.

● ***Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment***

The Council is mandated to **protect and conserve coastal and marine habitats** within this bi-national ecosystem, which includes the Bay of Fundy and its watersheds. Membership on the Council includes New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire - <http://gulfofmaine.org>.

The **Gulf of Maine Council Action Plan** is based on three overarching, long-range goals: Coastal and marine habitats are in a healthy, productive, and resilient condition; Environmental conditions support ecosystem and human health; and Coastal communities are vibrant and have marine-dependent industries that are healthy and globally competitive. Several ACZISC members are active in the Council Working Group and committees.

● ***Ocean Management Research Network***

The aim of the Ocean Management Research Network (OMRN) is to **create and share knowledge for the application of critical thinking and best practices to oceans management in Canada**. Interaction between the natural and social sciences is encouraged. The OMRN is interdisciplinary, providing a forum for researchers, managers, and policymakers to evaluate timely and innovative linkages, integrate lessons learned, transfer and share knowledge, and help create an expert core of ocean researchers - <http://www.omrn-rngo.ca>.

The OMRN biennial conferences provide a forum to share ideas and to discuss the current state of knowledge, research gaps and national priorities for the use and management of Canada's three oceans. The **2009 OMRN Conference was held on 21-24 October in Ottawa, ON**. The Conference ended with a recommendation to bring together representatives of ocean networks in Canada in a "summit" in order to discuss mutual interests and opportunities aimed at working more effectively toward delivering oceans awareness, networking and research. A Summit was organized and held on 18-19 March 2010 in Ottawa. A Summit report is forthcoming.

● ***Ocean Science and Technology Partnership***

The OSTP is an independent, federally incorporated, non-profit corporation developed with the support of Canada's Oceans Action Plan. The mission of the OSTP is: to capture the links between ocean science researchers and technology innovators; to encourage linkages between regional and national networks, information sharing and awareness building; to encourage and support collaboration to build and commercialize technology; and to present a national voice for the ocean technology community - <http://www.ostp-psto.ca>.

The OSTP and Fisheries and Oceans Canada, through the Canadian Space Agency Government Related Initiatives Program (GRIP), have initiated the development of a Canadian oceans observing systems (OOS) inventory. The project will catalogue each of the subsystems of existing OOS, including information on what is observed; what is being used to observe; how data are modeled or analyzed; what data is being made available to whom and how the information is being maintained, updated, archived and managed.

● ***Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Coalition on Sustainability***

The Coalition is a multi-stakeholder regional body representing the Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Québec portions of the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence. The Coalition is working towards an **environmentally, economically and socially sustainable Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence** through a mutually beneficial inter-dependence of these factors. The Coalition celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2009 - <http://www.coalition-sgsl.ca>.

Initiatives in which the Coalition was a participant include: the Community Aquatic Monitoring Program (CAMP); the Coastal Erosion Monitoring project; and the Status of Women Canada project 'Women in Coastal Communities – Using easy tools to better understand finances'. The **Coalition 2009 Annual General Meeting** was held on 11 June 2009 in Emerald, PEI. Sustainability trends, and gaps and issues of the past decade were discussed.

ACZISC Strategic Thrusts

The ACZISC terms of reference, identified in the ACZISC 2002-2012 Strategic Plan and subsequently updated in the 2008-2012 Strategic Plan, are as follows:

ACZISC Mission

To promote, facilitate and influence information management, policies and programs that enhance integrated coastal and ocean management (ICOM) in Atlantic Canada.

ACZISC Strategic Thrusts

To achieve its mission, the ACZISC will:

Provide a conduit to access, exchange and disseminate geospatial and other data / information by:

- Identifying data and information for ICOM
- Facilitating its availability to members and the public
- Implementing COINAtlantic – the Coastal and Ocean Information Network
- Raising awareness at appropriate venues of current and emerging initiatives and research related to information management
- Encouraging the implementation of appropriate information sharing and dissemination mechanisms

Advocate the implementation of ICOM in Atlantic Canada by:

- Networking, communication and outreach
- Providing a forum to share best practices and standards and encourage their implementation
- Raising awareness at appropriate venues of current and emerging initiatives and research related to ICOM

Capitalize on collaborative opportunities involving ICOM, and geomatics in support of ICOM by:

- Establishing and maintaining linkages and partnerships among members and with other personnel, committees and organizations.
- Identifying potential collaborative projects and activities in support of ICOM and geomatics in collaboration with existing and emerging initiatives
- Initiating, coordinating and managing collaborative projects and activities supporting ICOM and geomatics

Maximize the viability and relevance of the ACZISC by:

- Identifying and securing funding for the Secretariat, the Association and programs
- Ensuring effective administration and operation
- Ensuring comprehensive membership in the ACZISC
- Publicizing the ACZISC and its activities.

ACZISC Membership - March 2010

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ACZISC Association

Objects of the Society

The objects of the Society are:

- i To encourage and support the sustainable use of coastal and marine resources in Atlantic Canada through integrated coastal zone management;
- ii To promote, facilitate and influence information management, policies and programs for the purpose of enhancing integrated coastal zone management in Atlantic Canada;
- iii To develop, provide and support public education programs concerning the ocean and coastal environment and its importance as a critical component of global environmental systems;
- iv To strengthen the expertise and capacity in the oceans and coastal zone sectors of government, and parastatal and non-governmental organizations in Atlantic Canada;
- v To develop, provide and support technical assistance projects, training programs, policy advice and consulting resources for professionals engaged in the oceans and coastal zone sectors;
- vi All other activities which are ancillary to the objects of the Society.