



# THE ZONE

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Welcome to the Coastal Zone Canada Association summer 2015 Newsletter, **THE ZONE**.

This issue focuses on the Coastal Zone Canada Conference held in Halifax, Nova Scotia June 15-19, 2014. Also included is a *save the date* announcement for the 2016 Conference and a call for contributions to our next issue in the Fall of 2015.



## Our Coasts – Legacies and Future: CZC 2014 Conference Overview

In September 1994, Halifax NS hosted the first Coastal Zone Canada conference having “Cooperation in the Coastal Zone” as a central theme. Twenty years later, this same city was home for the 11 th edition of this gathering: CZC 2014 “Our Coasts- Legacies and Future”

CZC 2014 included a variety of meetings and events that aimed to promote the exchange of information, ideas, concerns and recommendations among those in contact with the countless activities and fields of knowledge associated with the coastal zone, the ocean and the marine environment; at local, national and international scale. These events included plenary talks, concurrent sessions, poster session, field trips and public discussions; addressing relevant aspects of public policy, planning, coastal and ocean management, coastal engineering, scientific research, climate change and ecology, among others. The 2014 conference also featured a focus group where young participants gathered to discuss their opinions, and concerns about the future in the “Oceans We Want” youth session.

The 2014 conference included dedicated sessions to discuss a wide range of studies and assessments focused on the Bay of Fundy: Canada’s natural wonder that features the largest tides in the world and brings together distinctive coastal processes, and ecosystems as well as unique opportunities and challenges.


### Public Policy

Representatives from a range of universities, aboriginal communities, research institutions and governmental bodies presented a variety of case studies that discussed the significant roll of governance directions in the conservation and protection of marine habitat, coastal communities and water quality. Speakers also assessed policy implementation challenges faced by many coastal communities including aboriginal settlements. Discussions also highlighted the fundamental roll of scientific knowledge and research in the development of policies for coastal and ocean management. Panelists also addressed the challenges of communicating scientific information to the policy makers.

### Coastal and Ocean Management

Several sessions discussed strategies and study case studies concerning Coastal and Ocean Management. Discussions addressed topics such as the implementation of Regional Ocean Plans, development of a web based decision system, evaluation of the impacts of Marine Protected Areas in different locations around the world, inclusion of coastal and aboriginal communities as well as other stakeholders in the management process, and the regulation

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The 19 June 2014 keynote address by the Honourable Paul Martin, a Global Ocean Commission Commissioner, called for Canada to take the lead in managing & protecting the global ocean and the high seas.

# Conservation of the Marine and Coastal Environment

The main focus of a variety of presentations was water quality in the marine and coastal environment. These sessions represented a great opportunity for addressing concerns such as ocean acidification and the risk of poor water quality in to the marine environment. Some of the presentations discussed national and international programs focused on mapping and monitoring marine and coastal ecosystems. Case studies of the implementation of environmental risk assessment (ERAs) provided an opportunity for presenting methodologies for estimating and improving quality of the effluent from waste water treatment plants, and discussing the implementation of ERAs for tidal energy development.

## Bay of Fundy

The coast of the Bay of Fundy witnesses the highest tides in the world, shaping a unique environment. Therefore opportunities and challenges for the conservation of its marine environment and coastal zones are also unique. For this reason, CZC 2014 included the 10th Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership Fundy Science Workshop and a variety of sessions that focused on this unique system environment, discussing topics such as sediment dynamics, intertidal ecology, methodologies for monitoring oceanic health, ecological concerns with invasive species, wetland restoration, the effects of salmon aquaculture, vulnerability of coastal communities and methodologies for monitoring the existing system of dykelands around in the area.

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of harvesting and allocation of fisheries resources; and, other economical activities associated with the coastal zone and the oceans. The discussions in general asserted that integrated management should involve sharing of expertise among different fields of knowledge, and should promote collaboration among stakeholders, with the aim of building environmental stewardship, towards the coastal zone and protecting vulnerable communities.

## Planning

Other topics of discussion during CZC 2014 focused in the sustainability of coastal communities and their vulnerability to flooding and erosion, the response and preparedness of communities for emergencies, the relationship and interaction between community stakeholders and science, the impact of human activities (recreational, economical and sanitary) in the coastal environment, the development of resilience, the development of appropriate criteria to define the feasibility of protection measures and the level of priority of the areas to protect, the development of GIS tools to map risks and coastal issues and provide bases for the implementation of policies, planning strategies and zoning by-laws.

## Coastal Engineering

In general, presentations on coastal engineering addressed the use of computer modelling as tools to simulate extreme flooding events in

the coastal area and assess the impact of a variety of protection measures, under current climate conditions and after climatic changes. Other sessions included discussions about the type, quality and amount of data required to develop reliable engineering designs. Presenters also focused in the importance of developing holistic designs by taking into account the expertise of planning professionals, the feasibility of the design, and the needs and priorities of stakeholders.

## Climate Change

A great number of presentations assessed the potential impacts and consequences of climate change and sea level rise in the coastal zone around the world. Some of the topics of discussion included: strategies, challenges and opportunities for community adaptation; methodologies for assessing community vulnerabilities; challenges and opportunities for marine and coastal related activities such as shipping, fisheries, aquaculture, tourism and energy generation; risks over archaeological resources, methods for estimating changes in future extreme events based on computer models and historical data; and, implementation and results of sea ice monitoring and mapping programs.



# CZC 2014 Highlights

## CZC 2014 Features

The tone of the Conference was set on opening night which began with welcoming remarks by the conference co-chairs as well as Provincial Government representatives and the President of St. Mary's University. A Mi'kmaw welcome prayer and the participation of a Chinese delegation provided a diverse backdrop to the opening reception.

CZC 2014 attracted about 700 participants including dignitaries, members of the media and 424 registered delegates from 19 countries: Australia, Barbados, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Egypt, France, Germany, Ghana, India, Mexico, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Trinidad & Tobago, United Kingdom, United States.

### CZC 2014 also featured the following events:

- Oceans Gala Dinner
- Oceans industry showcase
- Semiannual meeting of the Gulf of Maine Council of the Marine Environment
- Annual General Meeting of the CZCA, at which a new slate of officers and directors was elected. For the list of officers and directors see the CZCA website at [www.czca-azcc.org/html/board.html](http://www.czca-azcc.org/html/board.html)

## Summary of CZC 2014 Session Outcomes

For each of the keynote presentations, plenary sessions and concurrent sessions, the chair was asked to contribute recommendations that would be used to identify key themes and learnings from the conference. The points were compiled and tweeted in real time so that participants and non-participants could follow the major points coming out of the conference. You can view tweets @CZC2014 (<https://twitter.com/CZC2014>). At the closing conference session, participants were asked to vote on the most important aspects for moving forward in coastal management. The top points are summarized below.

**Research and Data:** Coastal management requires informed decision-making: improved information products derived from data and mapping are currently required.

**Management/ Governance:** Partner with new groups to find solutions and add value to existing partnerships while recognizing, respecting, and incorporating various cultural and community values. Create and strengthen the coastal and ocean management community of practice to inform decision-making and broaden management options. Coordinated action, partnerships, full use of all research inputs, and increased/ added value projects are important for leveraging funding.

**Public Outreach:** Invest in rigorous coastal and ocean education including hands on experiences in schools and with the public. Raise awareness that all human actions have an impact on the ocean and the health of the ocean has an impact on humans.

## Social Media

At each of these sessions participants were invited to tweet points of interests and highlights using the Twitter hashtag #CZC2014. As a result, these comments are available for review by doing a twitter search on the hashtag. There were on the order of 1,000 of tweets from numerous attendees. Statistics for twitter connections for Wednesday June 18th indicate a reach of 1,600 twitter users. This is four times the number of people that physically participated in the conference on site.

In addition to requesting participants to tweet on their observations, the Communication Committee undertook to tweet (@CZC2014) all summary points that were provided by the session chairs. All of this material will continue to be available from a twitter search of the #CZC2014 hashtag on the twitter.com website.



**Photo Map of twitter links arising from the hashtag #CZC2014. (credit Lee Wilson, Environmental Information: Use and Influence Research Initiative - <http://eui.ca>)**

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE CZCA:



# The Ocean We Want Youth Session

## Written Statement

We want a healthy ocean for today and for generations to come where humans utilize ocean resources sustainably and limit impact. To achieve this we must consider:

1. Raising awareness among the public that everything we do where ever we are has an impact on the ocean, and the health of the ocean impacts us.
2. Investing in rigorous environmental education programs including hands on experience and mentorship in elementary and secondary schools.
3. Future ocean management must be driven by consumers who demand environmentally, economically and socially sustainable ocean resource use.
4. A new brand of innovation, regulation, education will determine how humans interact with the ocean in the future and can solve many of the current ocean challenges.
5. The implementation of new technology provides an opportunity to address many of the current ocean challenges.
6. Meetings of diverse stakeholders are needed to communicate their wide ranging perspectives and local and traditional knowledge: we need to get on the same page.
7. Industries, politicians, scientists, and the public need to speak the same language and engage in working toward a holistic approach to management that addresses a common goal.

## Visual Statement

*"Our Vision for the Oceans... Moving Forward"*

*The piece starts off (view top first and right to left) with the oceans in a very bad state, but as the youth realize how dependent they are on her resources, and how little they know about the mysteries of the seas and coasts, they begin to look for new ways to respectfully draw from these mysterious environments (e.g., through clean technologies, education and youth initiatives etc.). Hopefully through everyone's contributions the oceans are allowed to flourish, and diversity and ocean life are sustained and so are we.*

'The Ocean We Want' session focused on youth and their vision for the future ocean. Participation in the session included: secondary school students, university students, young professionals, and mentors who currently work in coastal and ocean related fields.

The session began with a workshop focusing on the theme 'The Ocean We Want'. Participants were asked to describe their vision for the future ocean. The workshop acknowledged current opportunities and challenges associated with oceans and took into account human and personal interactions with the coast.

The second half of the session included a facilitated discussion between groups of youth and mentors to address questions around avenues for participants to contribute to achieving their ocean vision.

Focusing on steps to achieve 'The Ocean We Want' the mentorship session asked the questions: what role can you play in achieving your ocean vision?

And, how can you influence the present and the future ocean?

Mentors gave guidance on these questions, and shared their own ocean related education and work.



**Thank you to the CZC 2014 partners**



**Save the date: CZC Conference 2016**  
**June 12-16, 2015**

**University of Toronto Chestnut Conference Centre**

[www.czcatoronto2016.com](http://www.czcatoronto2016.com)

The Coastal Zone Canada 2016 Conference will be held at the Chestnut Conference Centre, University of Toronto. The activities will commence with the opening social on Sunday, June 12, 2016. The technical agenda will occur between Monday and Wednesday, and Thursday, June 16 will be dedicated to special meetings and field trips. We look forward to your participation in this exciting conference series that began in 1994.

**CZC 2014 Video**

Check out this six minute summary video from Coastal Zone Canada 2014. It presents a brief conference overview, the need to use social media and the results of the voting on priorities for future coastal work: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZYrR8SoFYMg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZYrR8SoFYMg).



**CZCA Membership**

Registration at the biennial CZC conferences automatically includes CZCA membership dues for two years. If you missed the conference in 2014 and would like to either update your membership, or become a new member, please contact the CZCA Secretariat (email [czcadmin@dal.ca](mailto:czcadmin@dal.ca)). Annual membership is \$20/ year. More information on membership is available on the CZCA website:

- [www.czca-azcc.org/html/membership.html](http://www.czca-azcc.org/html/membership.html)
- [www.czca-azcc.org/html/adhesion.html](http://www.czca-azcc.org/html/adhesion.html)

**2014 H.B. Nicholls Award**

The Coastal Zone Canada Association's H.B. Nicholls Award for Coastal Zone Management was presented to Rosmarie A. Lohnes President, Helping Nature Heal Inc. at the Wednesday, June 18th evening Oceans Gala during the Coastal Zone Canada 2014 Conference. The H.B. Nicholls Award recognizes Rosmarie's significant and continuing contribution to Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management in Atlantic Canada. Specifically, Rosmarie was recognized in 2014 for her work developing Living Shoreline techniques (<http://helpingnatureheal.com>).

*Rosmarie Lohnes receiving her award from H.B. Nicholls*



**GET IN THE ZONE**

The next issue of the CZCA Newsletter (Fall 2015) will include submissions from the CZCA Membership. We wish to continue the dialogue of coastal zone work on Canada between the biennial conferences. Consider submitting an update to work that you made a presentation on, or a special session you organized, at the Coastal Zone Canada 2014 Conference.

**News Items**

To submit a news item (maximum 500 words) please send to [czcanews@gmail.com](mailto:czcanews@gmail.com) by October 30, 2015.

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

Please consider submitting a paper to the next issue of the CZCA Newsletter. We are looking for paper submissions of 1000-2000 words on a wide range of topics covering Canada's coastal zone: governance and policy, engineering, ocean science, and social science.

If you wish to submit a paper please submit your abstracts (maximum of 250 words) to [CZCAnews@gmail.com](mailto:CZCAnews@gmail.com) by September 15, 2015. Papers will be due October 30, 2015.



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**CZC 2016 · TORONTO**