

# MINUTES OF ACZISC MEETING #14

## Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee

*Date:* Thursday, 4 May 1995 - 0830 hrs.

*Location:* Council of Maritime Premiers  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom  
5161 George Street, Halifax

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<b>NAME</b>	<b>AFFILIATION</b>	<b>TEL. NO.</b>
<b>Present:</b> * indicates ACZISC member		
Don Amos*	Public Works and Government Services Canada	(902) 496-5009
Joe Arbour*	Environment Canada	(902) 426-1701
Randy Baker	Fishermen and Scientists Research Society	(902) 889-3468
Michael Butler*, Chair	Oceans Institute of Canada	(902) 494-1977
Réjean Castonguay (representing Mary Ogilvie*)	NB Geographic Information Corporation	(506) 453-2113
Bob Crawford (representing Art Longard*)	NS Dept. of Fisheries	(902) 424-0351
Claudette LeBlanc	Oceans Institute of Canada	(902) 494-1977
Francine Mercier	Canadian Heritage, Parks Canada	(819) 997-4916
Andy Montgomery	NS Land Use Committee	(902) 424-4963
Brian Nicholls*	Fisheries and Oceans Canada Science and Habitat Management	(902) 426-3246
Dale Nicholson	Canadian Hydrographic Service	(902) 426-4581
Andy Power*	GANS	(902) 468-7777
Jim Ramsay*	Prince Edward Island	(902) 368-4075
Herb Ripley	GIAC Atlantic	(902) 463-7035
Charles Schafer	Geological Survey of Canada - Atlantic	(902) 426-7734
David Scott	Dalhousie University Centre for Marine Geology	(902) 494-3604
Andy Sherin*	Natural Resources Canada	(902) 426-7582
Sean Smith	Fishermen and Scientists Research Society	(902) 461-8119
Gary Winters	Geological Survey of Canada - Atlantic	(902) 426-6662

### 1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS**

Mike Butler, ACZISC Chair, called Meeting #14 to order at 08:30 hrs. He welcomed guests and introduced Brian Nicholls who will be representing the Marine Assessment and Liaison Division of Fisheries and Oceans Canada on the ACZISC. A roundtable introduction of all participants followed. He thanked the Council of Maritime Premiers for providing the meeting room and the Province of Nova Scotia for providing lunch.

An up-to-date list of Committee members with mailing and email addresses, and telephone and fax nos. is attached.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA, AND REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING #13**

The Provisional Agenda for Meeting #14 was reviewed. It was noted that: Emery Fanjoy, former Secretary to the Council of Maritime Premiers, would be addressing the ACZISC; Peter Outhit, Chair of the Management Committee of the Oceans Institute of Canada, would be briefing participants on the ongoing reorganization of the Institute; and the scheduled noon-hour presentation on the Passamaquoddy/ICOIN Project would not take place. Mike Butler added that Coastal Zone Mapping would be discussed in the ACZISC Workplan and he reminded members that the emphasis of today's meeting would be on the ACZISC review. The agenda was subsequently approved (copy attached).

The minutes of ACZISC Meeting #13 were reviewed and approved as distributed.

3. **PRESENTATION: COUNCIL OF MARITIME PREMIERS**

Emery Fanjoy stated that his participation in today's meeting was the last official duty arranged prior to his announced retirement on 7 March. He commented on the significant political changes which have occurred since 1992. Imagination and lateral thinking are required to maintain quality of programs and to overcome current financial restraints. Bold action is now the order of the day. This is leading to a different bureaucratic culture. Mr. Fanjoy stated that Mike Butler had kept him well informed of ACZISC activities. He advised that the ACZISC consider the external influences of these ongoing changes on its activities. At his suggestion that Québec be represented on the ACZISC, Dale Nicholson stated that this matter was being pursued.

Mr. Fanjoy announced that a Maritime committee of deputy ministers had been established with the responsibility for geomatics. He handed out copies of Selected Achievements of the *Maritime/Atlantic Strategic Economic Initiative 1991-95* (copy attached).

4. **STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS**

The Action Items from Meeting #13 were completed other than the following:

**MEMBERSHIP BY AGRICULTURE CANADA ON THE ACZISC:** Joe Arbour has contacted Agriculture Canada via the Soil Survey Unit in Truro. The Department has expressed interest in membership on the ACZISC. Joe will follow up after the field survey season.

**ACCORD ON INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF THE COASTAL ZONE:** Distribution of the draft Accord within government bureaucracies is in progress.

The outstanding Action Items will be discussed in further detail within the context of the Workplan and Working Group reports (Agenda Item # 4).

5. **ACZISC WORKPLAN**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Mike Butler reported that both the Province of Québec and Agriculture Canada are being contacted for membership on the ACZISC. He stated that GANS (Geomatics Association of Nova Scotia) and GIAC Atlantic (Geomatics Industry Association of Canada) were rationalizing their representation. Andy Power reported that the geomatics industry was now

overstructured with several associations (GIAC, GANS, URISSA, GAC, etc.) and that efforts must be made to consolidate. He stated that GIAC had started Western and Atlantic chapters and that many GANS members were now members of GIAC Atlantic. Whereas GANS is a public association, GIAC represents the private sector and has 20 members companies from Atlantic Canada. Andy announced that this meeting will be his last as the GANS representative and that private sector GANS representation on the ACZISC would in the future be via GIAC Atlantic. A representative will be chosen shortly to represent GIAC on the ACZISC; several individuals are interested.

Mike reported that efforts are being made to involve the Province of Newfoundland on the ACZISC; participation has been "spotty" to date. He also reported that Industry Canada had reorganized and now had an Information Technology Sector. The ACZISC Executive Committee will pursue active participation from these two members.

**WORKPLAN AND BUDGET/FUNDING SUPPORT:** Mike Butler distributed and reviewed a copy of the ACZISC *Revenue Summary* and the *Summary of Budgets and Expenditures for the years 1994/95 and 1995/96* (copies attached). He reminded members that the \$50K CMP grant was provided to the Oceans Institute and not to the ACZISC. However, most of the grant is spent directly on ACZISC related activities and must be used to lever additional funds, e.g., ACZISC dues. The agreement runs out at the end of March 1996. It was suggested that the \$50K amount in the ACZISC budget be adjusted to reflect the actual amount of \$ spent on ACZISC activities.

Jim Ramsay stated that the newly appointed CMP Secretary, Keith Wornell from PEI, should be open to discussions re extending the CMP grant upon his return from sick leave in a couple of months. Barb Murray is Acting Secretary in the interim.

Draft project summaries were distributed and briefly reviewed. This process and format has been recommended by the ACZISC Executive Committee to track projects. Project managers were requested to identify in-kind support for their projects as this is very important for leveraging funds, e.g., the \$50K recently levered from CESED. Comments on the format were also requested.

The 1995/96 MOUs were discussed. Some members stated that the MOUs were valuable in securing support for ACZISC activities from their departments while others maintained they were limiting. It was suggested that members advise the Secretariat re their requirements regarding the MOUs.

***ACTION: Members who require MOUs for their jurisdiction for fiscal year 1995/96 to advise the Secretariat ASAP.***

***Secretariat to revise the ACZISC budget 31 May to indicate only the portion of the \$50K CMP contribution allotted to ACZISC projects and activities.***

***Members to review the content and format of the draft ACZISC Project Summaries and provide comments to the Secretariat by 31 May.***

***Working Group chairs/project managers to identify in-kind contributions re their respective ACZISC projects by 31 May, in consultation with the Secretariat, for inclusion in the ACZISC Project Summaries.***

**DATABASE DIRECTORY:** Claudette LeBlanc, chair of the Database Directory Working Group, reported that she was working collaboratively with the NS Geomatics Centre in Amherst as per the terms of an agreement between the ACZISC and the Centre re the update of the Atlantic Coastal Zone Database Directory and the NS Directory of Geographic Data and Information.

The information from the "old" standard (Version 2) has been "plugged" into the new federal standard and output questionnaires have been produced. Packages of these questionnaires were distributed to ACZISC members early to mid-March for distribution to the individual contact persons within their jurisdictions. A few updated questionnaires have been received.

Claudette stated that she had been in contact with Gordon Plunkett of Natural Resources Canada in Ottawa re the status of software being developed by NRCan for database directories. Gordon reported that development of the MetaView software was temporarily on hold due to financial restraints and departmental reorganization. A prototype version has been produced and a PC version is planned.

Andy Power commented that the small number of private sector entries in the Database Directory was often the result of confusion re ownership of data. He queried if the ACZISC should be tackling this problem. Other comments were made:

*Don Amos:* Public Works has similar concerns.

*Andy Sherin:* Federal regulations re intellectual property rights exist. A solution to the problem lies in contractual relationships between buyer and provider.

*Joe Arbour:* Properly worded contracts would address future problems but not correct past ones. Guidelines are needed for contracts.

*Brian Nicholls:* The CZC'94 Proceedings contain several recommendations regarding data ownership.

It was suggested that the Database Directory discuss the data ownership issue and report at the next ACZISC meeting. Don Amos and Andy Power also agreed to participate in the discussions.

***ACTION:*** ***Database Directory Working Group (plus Don Amos and Andy Power) to review "data ownership" and recommend if and how the ACZISC could be involved in resolving problems related to this issue.***

Brian Nicholls inquired if the Database Directory was being marketed adequately and asked how the private sector was responding to the Directory. Mike Butler responded that marketing could be improved but that private sector response was enthusiastic.

**CITAP:** The CITAP (Coastal Information Technology Architecture Plan) Working Group is currently being chaired jointly by Andy Montgomery, NS Land Use Committee, and Andy Sherin, Natural Resources Canada. Andy S. commented that comments had been received on the draft CITAP vision circulated at the last meeting (4 May). He circulated a revised version and a draft agenda for a 2<sup>nd</sup> CITAP Development Session to be held in Fredericton (copies attached). The principal objective of the workshop will be to develop prototype partnerships using identified databases. Comments were requested.

Attendance at the planned workshop was discussed. It was recommended that efforts be made to have balanced participation, including private sector and community representatives. Randy Baker commented that information was not getting out to the communities. ACAP was suggested by Joe Arbour and the NS Coastal Issue Group by Bob Crawford as means of communicating information to community groups. Randy added that the Coastal Community Network headed by Wayne Edgar at St. Francis Xavier could also participate. Both Randy and Sean Smith expressed interest in being involved in CITAP.

***ACTION:*** ***Members to review the CITAP Vision Statement and proposed agenda for CITAP Development Session #2 and provide comments by 12 May to the CITAP Working Group co-chairs.***

***Members to provide names of potential participants to the CITAP Development Session #2 by 12 May to the CITAP Working Group co-chairs.***

**STANDARDS:** The Coastal Mapping Standards Working Group is co-chaired by Paul Bellemare and Mary Ogilvie. Réjean Castonguay, sitting in for Mary, reported that Mary was planning Standards Workshop #3 for late June. Dale Nicholson stated that the workshop would focus on the Data Model - i.e. transition from feature code to object code. He added that the Action Items from Workshop #2 were dependant on Chartnet being implemented at BIO and that this scheduled to take place by the end of May.

**ACTION:** ***Standards Working Group Co-chairs to follow up by 31 May on the status of Action Items from the Report of the Standards Workshop #2.***

***Standards Working Group Co-chairs to organize Standards Workshop #3 by 31 May to be held in Fredericton in June.***

**ICOIN:** The ICOIN Working Group is chaired by Paul Bellemare. Mike Butler stated his concern that ICOIN activities are not being integrated into the ACZISC workplan. He recommended that efforts be made to involve the ICOIN Project Office in ACZISC deliberations.

**ACTION:** ***Paul Bellemare to contact ICOIN Project Office in Ottawa by 31 May re the status of ICOIN.***

**ECNASAP:** Mike Butler, co-chair (with Joe Arbour and Andy Sherin) of the Canadian ECNASAP Project Management Committee, briefed participants on the status of the Canada/U.S. East Coast of North America Strategic Assessment Project (ECNASAP). He circulated copies of the *ECNASAP Pilot Project Plans* published in February.

Mike reported that ECNASAP is producing "solid science" and that it is a good example of intergovernmental and interdepartmental cooperation. Financing of the project is largely through in-kind contributions. He also stated that ECNASAP coincides with two of the key objectives for the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment, i.e. to restore shellfish habitats and to promote restoration of groundfish resources. Mike reported that he and Joe Arbour would be making an ECNASAP presentation to the Gulf of Maine Council late June.

The Offshore Case Study is led by Bob O'Boyle, Fisheries and Oceans Canada. An Offshore workshop aimed at relating key species to other species and habitat was held recently at BIO. The workshop report will be available soon.

The Inshore Case Study is led by Joe Arbour. It focuses on closure of shellfish producing areas and has two major components:

- Shellfish Register for the Gulf of Maine: The text for the Register is progressing well. A meeting is scheduled for Hyannis to review the text and associated database. Products are anticipated by mid-summer. Environment Canada is responsible for the electronic component of the register and NOAA for its publication.
- Estuary Study: Sites are located at St. Croix and Letang and work is being done collaboratively with ACAP and the NB Premier's Clambed Action Committee. ACAP is incorporating traditional knowledge into the process. The Estuary Study will be completed by January 1996.

Joe reported that a Workshop held in March reviewed the NOAA strategic assessment process in view of adapting it Inshore Case Study. A workshop report is being prepared. He added that the Estuary Study products would be relevant to ACAP in terms of the decision-support tools being developed and the use of strategic environmental assessment to develop plans and policy.

The provinces of NB and NS are contributing to the Shellfish Register. Joe stated that an Estuary Study site is sought in NS. Bob Crawford reported that the NS Land Use Committee was identifying sites for the application of integrated coastal zone management. He suggested that this could be a collaborative effort with an ECNASAP Estuary Study site.

***ACTION:*** *Bob Crawford to follow up on how the Province of Nova Scotia can participate in the ECNASAP Inshore Case Study.*

**NORTHUMBERLAND STRAIT:** Mike Butler stated that the proposed Northumberland Strait Coastal Information Management System (NSCIMS) would focus on the Strait. It would be a fully functioning system used for practical applications and serve as a showcase involving several projects which could be used for international marketing. NSCIMS would be tied to the Fixed Link. A Workshop and private sector led meetings have been held in the last few months. Recent discussions have been led by DMR and have focused on the economic feasibility of the proposed project. NSCIMS is currently led by the private sector; the ACZISC will advise if requested.

Concerns were expressed that the Provinces were not involved. Jim Ramsay stated that PEI was not involved because of the official provincial position; however, he stated that information could be made available by PEI. Bob Crawford commented that NS was concerned about the impacts of the Fixed Link and suggested that NS mapping projects, e.g., Pictou, could become components of NSCIMS.

***ACTION:*** *Secretariat to circulate documents being prepared by the DMR Group, in consultation with Strait Crossing Inc., re the economic feasibility of the proposed NSCIMS.*

**COASTAL ZONE CANADA '94 CONFERENCE:** Mike Butler reported the CZC'94 Organizing Committee had been chaired by Brian Nicholls, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Larry Hildebrand, Environment Canada. Mike chaired the Program Committee on behalf of the ACZISC and the Oceans Institute of Canada. The Conference Action Plan and Recommendations (Volume 6) are currently being prepared.

Brian Nicholls stated that the Conference organization had been a huge task. Volume 6 is also a major effort; the draft will be circulated shortly for review. It will be unique because of the involvement of community groups and all stakeholders.

The CZC'94 Association is continuing to monitor activities. It has approved an application by UQAR (Université du Québec à Rimouski) to hold a smaller and more focused conference in Rimouski from 12-17 August 1996.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** The recently formed ACZISC Communications Working Group (chaired by Mike Butler) will be kicked into action shortly. One of its first task tasks will be to develop an Internet Homepage for the ACZISC. Mike circulated a copy of the *ACZISC Project Update* (copy attached); it will be updated regularly and posted on the Internet. Other planned activities of the Communications Working Group include developing a display to be used at conferences, etc. and preparing a calling card for the Database Directory. Improving external and internal (within the Committee) communications will also be addressed.

***ACTION:*** *Communications Working Group to develop ACZISC Homepage on the Internet by 31 May.*

***ACZISC Members to provide suggestions to the Secretariat re improving ACZISC communications within the Committee and externally.***

**COASTAL ZONE MAPPING:** Mike Butler reported that two meetings had been held recently dealing with coastal zone mapping in the region. Meeting #1 focused on base mapping; progress is being made in this sector and discussions are ongoing between CHS and the Provinces. Meeting #2 (11 April) focused on thematic mapping. DFO is participating in several community led initiatives. The ACZISC has been contacted re problems with this mapping; these issues must be addressed. Mike circulated copies of the Meeting #2 report.

David Scott stated that resource people must be made available to the communities to act as scientific authorities on the information being collected. Mike stated that verification and ownership had been identified as problems.

## 6. **PRESENTATION: OCEANS INSTITUTE OF CANADA**

Peter Outhit, Chair of the Management Committee of the Oceans Institute of Canada (OIC), briefed participants on the ongoing restructuring of the Institute. He stated that the role of the OIC would be broader in scope and that it would become more active in providing technical advice. The OIC is now 20 years old and has 75 associates who are recognized experts in various fields of ocean management. Peter stated that active members would be sought and that honorary membership might be implemented.

The Institute provides services to NGOs via governments, opening doors for trade opportunities. It also provides management advice, e.g., committees like the ACZISC which is unique in the world. 65% of the contracts are obtained through CIDA; the remainder are procured from other governments and NGOs. The Institute deals primarily in four sectors:

- integrated coastal zone and oceans management
- sustainable development of resources (living and non-living)
- environmental protection and recovery
- international cooperation and treaty implementation.

The OIC is currently managing 14 programs, many in southeast Asia. It wants to establish a higher profile nationally and currently has proposals to carry out projects in the Provinces. Charles Schafer enquired how the OIC could be involved in the NS Coastal Ocean Initiative. Peter replied that the OIC could bring in a national and international perspective.

Restructuring goals include:

- becoming a membership of professionals in the field
- requirement for a membership fee
- developing an information service and mechanism for involving members
- assuring more NGO participation in CIDA contracts in the future.

It is anticipated that the Institute will be relocating downtown into commercial property by the end of the summer; it is currently located on the Dalhousie University campus.

## 7. **ACZISC REVIEW**

Mike Butler distributed copies of the responses to the ACZISC Review Questionnaire (copy attached). The responses were reviewed and the following comments and conclusions were made:

### **PROJECTS**

**Database Directory:** More effort must be made to promote and distribute the Directory.

**CITAP:** A time element should be built into the CITAP implementation plan and the vision should

have an economic focus.

**Standards:** International standards must be kept in mind when developing regional and national standards.

**ECNASAP:** The Fisheries Research Conservation Council ? is kept informed on the ECNASAP project.

**Coastal Zone Canada '94:** Considered to be a success.

**Northumberland Strait:** This project has appeal to the private sector.

**Other:** A link between the ACZISC and the OBS (Open Bidding Service) should be considered.

### ADDITIONAL ISSUES

**Coastal Projects Register:** Suggested as a future activity for the ACZISC, The Register could be posted on the Internet.

**Coastal Zone Thematic Mapping:** This recent attempt to coordinate thematic mapping projects must continue. A Coastal Projects Register would be of assistance.

**Atlas:** The need for a marine atlas for the Atlantic coastal zone was identified. It was suggested that ECNASAP responded to this requirement in some respects.

### SECRETARIAT

**Executive Committee:** It was suggested that the ACZISC Executive Committee become more active in supporting the Secretariat.

**MOUs:** As stated earlier, it was recommended that MOUs only be distributed to members requesting them.

**Information Flow:** If possible, the Secretariat should reduce the amount of paper being generated. The use of email will improve this situation.

**Oceans Institute of Canada:** Considered to be a good location for the Secretariat.

**Frequency of Meetings:** Felt to be appropriate.

**Meeting Agendas:** Generally felt that the agendas are overloaded. It was suggested that the amount of time spent on administrative issues be reduced, that the Round Table Review of Coastal Zone Activities be brought forward on the agenda and that informal discussions take place the previous evening.

**Working Group Structure:** The Working Group chairs of core programs could participate in Executive Committee meetings when relevant.

**Need for a Secretariat:** Generally felt that ACZISC activities would come to a grinding halt without a Secretariat. However, it was pointed out that a good business case must be made for membership dues and the CMP grant.

### GENERAL

**Terms of Reference:** Appropriate. They should be revisited if the mandate of the ACZISC changes.

**CMP Grant:** The 3-year CMP grant to the Oceans Institute was negotiated in collaboration with the Maritime Geomatics Board. The term of the grant comes to an end in March 1996. Following the demise of the Board, a Maritime Geomatics Committee was established with responsibilities for regional geomatics issues. The Committee will be meeting in June and in the fall. The Committee members and their advisors are: PEI - Ernie Brennan and Jim Ramsay; NB - Bob Gamble and Mary Ogilvie; and NS - Ed Cram and Nancy Vanstone. Mr. Brennan and Mr. Cram are also members of the Regional Treasury Board. It was suggested that the ACZISC make a presentation at the fall meeting of the Committee regarding the renewal and renegotiation of the CMP grant.

**Expectations:** In general it was felt that the ACZISC was meeting members' expectations.

**Beyond 1995/96:** There was a consensus amongst the members felt that the ACZISC should continue its activities beyond 1995/96. It was stressed that the Committee was remain focused and dynamic.



**NOVA SCOTIA:** Bob Crawford, sitting in as a replacement for Art Longard, reported that a Task Group responsible to the NS Land Information System Advisory Committee and Land Use Committee was studying the merging of CHS Charts with 1:10,000 map sheets. Recommendations will be produced. The land-based 10,000 database is scheduled for completion in 1997. He added that thematic information was being collected on CHS Charts; this will be available for plotting on a coastal zone base map series when available. The TAGS program may be used further to collect thematic information; it has already been used for the Queens County and the Guysborough County projects.

Andy Montgomery reported that comments made by the public re CZ2000 were being reviewed. In general, the public expressed consistent support for integrated coastal zone management; however, the public has expressed some scepticism in the Government's ability to deliver. CZ2000 will undergo a rewrite this summer. It will then be subjected to a more focused public review process and will be prepared for submission to Cabinet by the end of the year. The public has expressed great interest in reviewing the CZ2000 implementation plan.

**CANADIAN HERITAGE:** Francine Mercier reported that it was anticipated that the National Marine Conservation Area proposed for the west coast of Newfoundland would be approved by the Province. However, the National Marine Conservation Area proposed for the West Isles region of NB has not been approved by the NB Cabinet and has been shelved. The Gulf of Maine will be examined more for a potential site.

Parks Canada will undertake a regional study through literature searches and experts for western Newfoundland and Québec.

Francine reported that the latest national edition of the State of the Environment (SOE) report would be available in digital format. She stated that SOE would be cut due to budget constraints.

Canada's official policy re marine protected areas will be available shortly. The World Wildlife Fund is developing a policy in general for marine protected areas. This policy would be based on the Oceans Act, Parks Canada policy, CWS policy, etc.

***ACTION: Francine Mercier to provide copies of Canada's National Conservation Areas System Plan to the Secretariat when available for distribution to members.***

**FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA:** Dale Nicholson reported that Paul Bellemare was attending in Moncton to attend a meeting with DFO reps to initiate a habitat management/mapping project in the Gulf Region. He stated that specifications are being developed for coastal zone base maps in collaboration with NS. PEI is also interested. These will be also developed in collaboration with the NBGIC and through the Passamaquoddy/ICOIN project.

The CHS budget will be cut by 25% and staff by 20% over the next 3 years.

The DGPS/Tidal Forum will be scheduled after submission of a report being prepared under contract to determine the vertical implications of DGPS.

Merger of the Coast Guard with DFO is under way. The increase in vessels will benefit CHS.

Sensitivity mapping is being carried out under Bob Rutherford, Fisheries and Habitat Management, Scotia/Fundy and Jean Legault, Gulf Region. More details will be provided at the next meeting.

Dale reported that three nodes would be established for the Passamaquoddy/ICOIN Project. The system being developed will be knowledge-based and provide users with access to metadata. UNB is now involved in the Project. A full technical committee and communications committee will be established in addition to the Scientific Authority; DFO has been asked to provide a chair for the technical committee.

Chris Morry of DFO HQ has been assigned as the DFO contact for coastal zone information. He will be attending the next ACZISC meeting.

Dale distributed a copy of the *1995 CHS Preliminary Survey Program* and an article entitled *Oracle's research helps move GIS to the mainstream* (Computing Canada - 25 April 1995); copies are attached.

**NACOM:** Dale Nicholson reported that the private sector led Ocean Information Technology Showcase would be featured at the G7 Summit. CHS will be participating in this event with the Matthew providing a static display and the Creed providing a dynamic display. Dale also reported that 1995/96 would NACOM's last year as an ACZISC member.

**GEOMATICS ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA:** Andy Power reported that GANS members were involved in the G7 Summit displays previously mentioned. GANS has been represented at the city level.

The activity level in the private sector is down overall, probably as a result of government cuts. However, there is a lot of activity relating to the offshore oil and gas sector. Hunter Oil is drilling off the south coast of Newfoundland near Cornerbrook. The feasibility study for the proposed gas pipeline from Sable Island to Boston is near completion. A decision will be made by the end of May. The pipeline would have feeders to major customers, e.g., NS Power, Irving Oil, and NB Power. The cost would be approximately \$1 billion.

GIAC is entering into discussions with GANS. There is a possibility that GIAC may restructured like GANS with a mix of private sector and public members.

#### 9. ***ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS***

Mike mentioned several documents available for review by the participants, located on a nearby table, including documents on the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment, the Ocean Information Technology Showcase, the NS Oceans Initiative (CAST spinoff) and the Passamaquoddy/ICOIN Phase I Report.

#### 10. ***OTHER BUSINESS***

No new business was reported.

#### 11. ***NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT***

**ACZISC Meeting #15 is provisionally scheduled for Wednesday, 16 August 1995 in Charlottetown, PEI.**

ACZISC Meeting #14 adjourned at 17:00 hrs.