

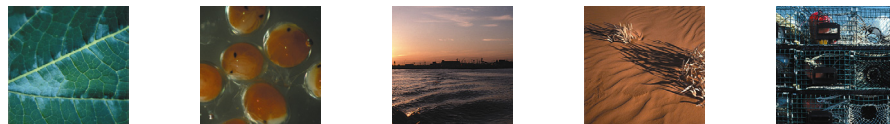


Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence
Coalition on Sustainability

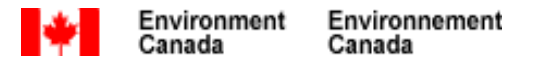
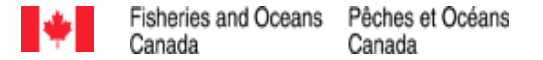
Annual
Report
2005-2006



A Year Of Recognition

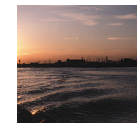


Our Contributors



Mission Statement

The Coalition and its members envision the future in which the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence is socially, economically and environmentally sustainable. Our goal is to work towards promoting the long-term sustainability of our ecosystem.



SOUTHERN GULF OF ST.
LAWRENCE COALITION ON
SUSTAINABILITY

COALITION POUR LA
VIABILITÉ DU SUD DU
GOLFE DU SAINT-LAURENT

064 P.A. Landry
Université de Moncton
Moncton, NB, E1A 3E9
Email/Courriel: Coord@Coalition-SGSL.ca

Our Five-Point Action Plan

The Coalition

1. Helps to facilitate communications, networking and information sharing among its partners by various mediums
2. Based on the consensus of members, recommends to decision-makers priority strategies, policies and regulations for the region and monitors their progress.
3. Encourages partners and communities to build their capacity and achieve their sustainability goals through collective programs and providing tools.
4. Facilitates access to expertise, data and resources.
5. Promotes awareness and education on sustainability.



Sustainability

Living in Balance within Earth's limits for a healthy future, and understanding that economies, environments, and societies are interconnected.

As defined by consensus by Coalition Members
November 27, 2004



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Steering Committee Members, 2005-2006

Harry Collins, President*
Executive Director, Miramichi River
Environmental Assessment Committee

Claudette LeBlanc, Vice-President*
Project Officer, Atlantic Coastal Zone Information
Steering Committee Secretariat, ONG

David Boyce, Treasurer*
Executive Director, Southeast Environmental
Association – NGO/ PEI

Allister Marshall, Secretary*
Po'tlo'tek Fish & Wildlife Association
Chapel Island First Nation

John A. Legault*
Senior Ecosystem Biologist
Fisheries & Oceans Canada – Gulf Region

Justin Huston*
Coastal Zone Coordinator
Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture & Fisheries

Dr Irene Novaczek
Director, Institute of Island Studies, UPEI

Andre Drapeau
Masters Student
University of Prince Edward Island

Paul Laplante
President, Eco-Technologies Ltd.

Marianne Janowicz
Coastal/Marine Specialist
New Brunswick Department of the Environment and Local Government

* These individuals are also members of the Management Committee

Jocelyne Gauvin
Executive Director, Pays de Cocagne
Sustainable Development Group

Omer Chouinard
Director of the Masters of Environmental
Studies Program, Université de Moncton

Denis Simon
Crown Land Harvest Director
Elsipogtog First Nation

Leopold Bourgeois
Horticultural producer
La Fleur du Pommier Ltd.

Jean Goguen
Director
The Kent District Planning Commission

Eric Arseneau
Environmental Coordinator
Maritime Fishermen's Union

Lucia Fanning
Ecosystem Advisor, Environment Canada

Kyle McKenzie
Atlantic Regional Coordinator
C-CIARN Atlantic

Terry Burgoyne
President, Microtech Supply & Services Inc.



From the
Chair

Our current year for the “coalition” has been one with significant advancement and, we suggest, one in which a milestone has been achieved. When clients come to call (i.e. unsolicited like) any operation is gratified by the recognition. The Coalition in 2005/06 was approached and accepted contracts related to “integrated management” and “coastal erosion”. These have been successfully completed under the guidance of our talented Executive Director and the sub-contractors she was able to recruit.

We have again launched into a very timely workshop that will coincide with our spring AGM. The event, to be held on the Miramichi in May 2006, is entitled “Finding the Power to Prosper – Sustainable and Renewable Energy in Atlantic Canada”. The workshop will explore energy issues and opportunities in Atlantic Canada. In partnership with two other agencies (ACAP and APEGNB-Northeast Branch) this event will explore the way forward with energy technology, energy conservation and the pressing challenge of energy poverty.

Other challenges continue to be tackled and addressed. Finding resources may always be an adventure for not-for-profit. The geographic scope of the Southern Gulf continues to present some practical challenges. Getting a good cross-section of representation from more sectors of our communities is an ongoing need to broaden our perspective and impact. Our working group members continue to plug along to fill out the capacity of our organization as they juggle these duties with their day jobs.

The future appears to hold both elements of mystery and more of the same. We will continue to provide the increasingly significant networking and information exchange among our array of partners. The coalition will also proceed opportunistically as we adopt projects that harmonize with our vision. These hidden opportunities offer the mystery and much of the interest our dedicated band find in this process.

First things last, as usual; my deepest appreciation for the “coalition” members and staff who continue to work hard toward realizing the vision of promoting sustainability and well being, not just within the bounds of their immediate community but for an entire ecosystem we refer to as the Southern Gulf of St Lawrence.

Sincerely,

Harry Collins



From the
Executive Director

Each year presents new opportunities and challenges: however 2005-06 was ‘a year of recognition’ that really anchored the Coalition as an effective organization and raised our public profile.

In recognition of our ability to produce results, the Coalition was awarded with two significant contracts: a Coastal Erosion contract that produced several products including an annotated bibliography of coastal erosion research; and a Stakeholder Sessions contract which involved consulting Non-Government Organizations and Associations of Municipalities in the maritime region on their views with integrated management and how to improve future decision-making processes. Two very rewarding projects!

In recognition of our networking abilities, the Coalition was invited to participate on the Northumberland Strait Ecosystem Working Group and will be actively involved with overseeing the ecosystem overview assessment report. We were also invited to partner with the Social Economy and Sustainability project under sub-node 4 – Mobilization for Natural Resources and Livelihoods. Valuable and exciting outcomes are expected from both forums!

In recognition of being a leader of sustainable thinking, the Coalition was profiled at three international venues: the Rethinking Development – Local Pathways to Global Wellbeing conference, the Nearshore Marine Monitoring workshop, and the Canadian Aboriginal Science and Technology Society conference – all in Nova Scotia. We also participated on a very interesting discussion panel with the Best Management Practices for Reduction of Effluent from Seafood Processing in Atlantic Canada workshop in Moncton.

Most importantly, our best recognition feature in 2005-06 is the fact that the Coalition family grew by 30%! Many of these new members are member groups and represent a much larger populace, and a broader spectrum of experiences and wisdom on sustainability. We hope to tap into this knowledge-base this summer by conducting a member survey that will help the Coalition reach its sustainability goals and respond better to member needs.

I hope you enjoy reading through this annual report and I want to thank all Coalition members for believing, the Steering Committee for their support and our funding partners for making everything possible.

Yours in sustainability,

Nadine Gauvin

Scholarship and Sustainability Award Winners, 2005

In 2005, the Coalition-SGSL was pleased to award both Véronique Gélinas and André Drapeau each with a \$5,000 Coalition-SGSL scholarship; and to provide Kimberly Swan with the \$1,000 Sustainability Award.



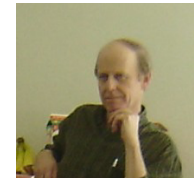
An Education Masters student at Université de Moncton, Véronique Gélinas conducted her research on how schoolchildren identify and define an environmental problem along a specific river – Cocagne River in New Brunswick. The experiment provided the young participants with an opportunity to reflect on how they can take action to effect positive change in their local ecosystem.

André Drapeau, a Masters Student at the Atlantic Veterinary Collage at University of Prince Edward Island conducted research on the relationship between inter-sock spacing and productivity in Prince Edward Island Mussel Farms. His initial research suggests that optimizing inter-sock spacing on a given lease leads to improved productivity, sustainability while also minimizing environmental costs.



Also a Masters student of the Atlantic Veterinary Collage at the University of Prince Edward Island, Kimberly Swan was recognized for her work on determining the effects of treating clubbed tunicate. This invasive species attaches itself to mussel growing gear and competes for food with the blue mussel – an economically important shellfish in PEI. Kimberly is involved with discovering how the treatment of clubbed tunicate affects the physiological fitness of the blue mussel population.

Working Groups, Committees and Staff Profiles, 2005–2006



Annual General Meeting 2006

(Co-chairs, Harry Collins & John LeBlanc)

True to Coalition tradition, this year's AGM was tied into a large-scale workshop 'Finding the Power to Prosper – Sustainable and Renewable Energy in Atlantic Canada'

hosted by the Miramichi River Environmental Assessment Committee and in partnership with the ACAP family, the Coalition-SGSL and the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of New Brunswick. The planning committee met regularly the past year to organize a high-caliber workshop boasting speakers from across Canada and to secure funding partners. Over 200 people are expected to participate.



Coastal Erosion (Interim chair, Isabelle Frenette)

The members of the Working Group met via conference call on two occasions to discuss the objectives of the working group and to update the workplan. They contributed to and reviewed the contract awarded by Environment Canada on coastal erosion in Atlantic Canada (including Quebec) with the following deliverables: an annotated bibliography (MS Access database) on all

former and present research conducted in Atlantic Canada, a gap analysis of coastal erosion policy, legislation and research and a Coastal Erosion Fact Sheet. Next steps include developing an awareness program on adaptation techniques for coastal erosion in the Southern Gulf.

Communication & Education (Chair Audrey Lapenna)

Three newsletters were produced (Spring, Summer and Fall) with a special centerfold issue in the Fall issue depicting the members of the Coalition Steering committee and their photos. Also, the working group spearheaded the production of two bookmarks: one on general sustainability information and the other on energy conservation. The Coalition brochure was also revised to better emphasize the activities, mandate and goals of the Coalition and several hundred copies were produced; plus the website was also revised to be more functional.



Science, Research & Habitat (Chair, Marianne Janowicz)

The Science, Research & Habitat working group was revived with the EcoAction funding project, 'Adopting Sustainability Indicators into Action Planning' which involves the participation of eight community groups with populating specific indicators with data and learning how to determine trends, etc. An Advisory Committee was established to oversee this project and the work of the Project coordinator, intern Julie Turcotte. The working group will work on developing Phase III of the project in the next year.



Technical Advisory (Chair, John Legault)

The Working Group submitted a proposal to GeoConnections that was unfortunately rejected. This proposal focused on capacity-building for NGO groups with their GIS skills through a mentorship program and offering services in the form of a centralized GIS node. Not to be deterred, the working group met mid-March to go back to the drawing board and re-establish future goals. It was determined, a more practical and useful tool would be to develop a specifications document of existing portals, sources of GIS information, data, etc so as to avoid duplication and assist member groups with their mapping efforts.



Traditional Ecological Knowledge (Chair, Allister Marshall)

A small intimate workshop was organized and held in Gespeg, Quebec in May, 2005 with the goal of bridging the communities outside and within Gespeg to learn how to link conventional science and traditional ecological knowledge with the research and environmental projects being conducted in the surrounding areas. The working group is presently working on a new Terms of Reference to determine its future focus.

Scholarship Review Committee (Chair, Kyle McKenzie)

The scholarship committee met on several occasions to review the scholarship applications and to discuss modifications to the scholarship criteria to better reflect the vision of the Steering Committee (stimulate new research as opposed to reward old research) and include doctoral research. In addition the scholarship application deadline was advanced to January 31st to tie-in better with thesis development timelines and allow successful candidates adequate time to prepare for the field season. It was decided that all candidates should have the opportunity to present their research and this will occur during a future Steering Committee meeting during the afternoon mini-forum section.



Coalition Employees



Nadine Gauvin
Executive Director

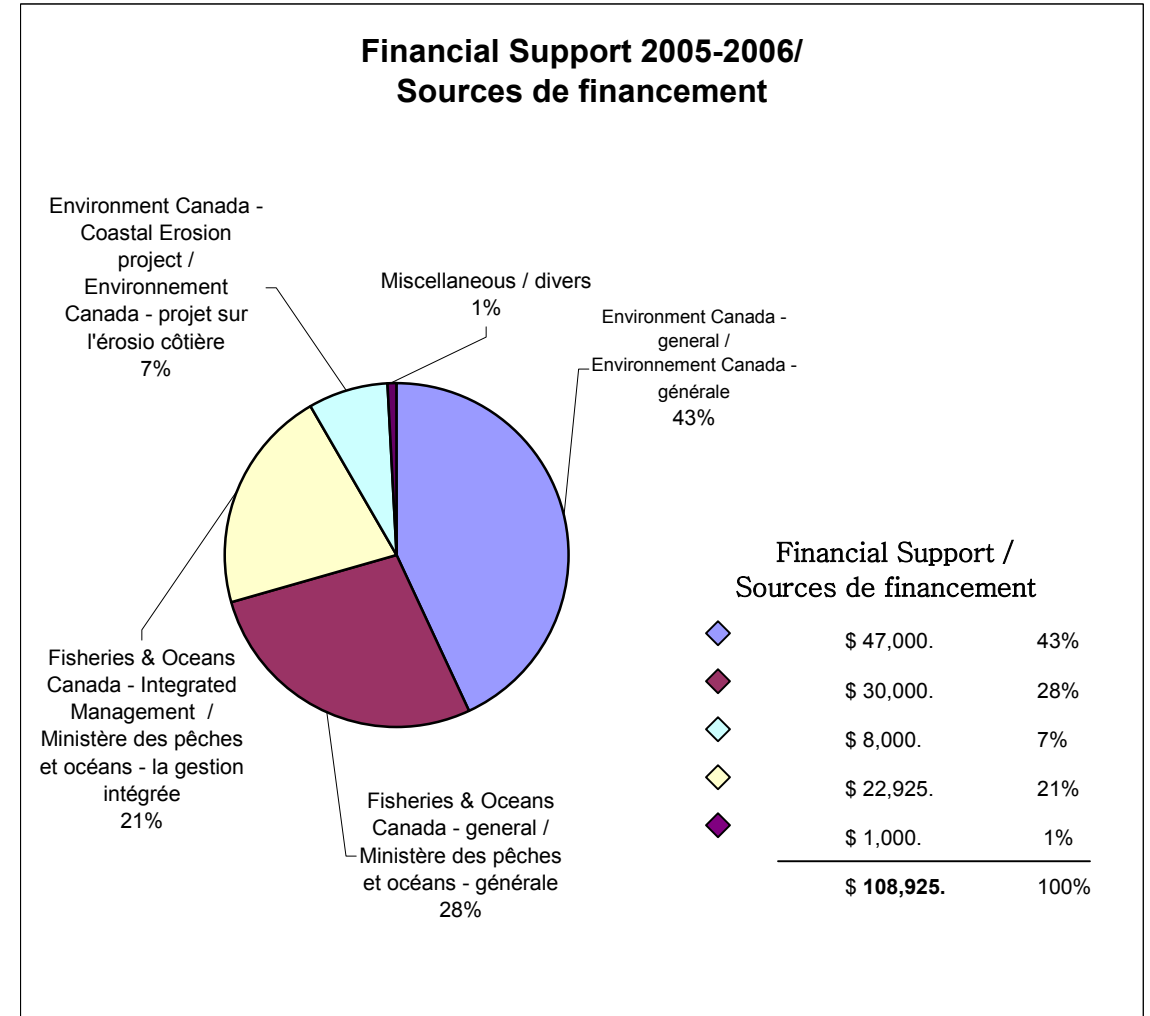


Jenny Guignard
Administrative Assistant



Julie Turcotte
Sustainability Indicators
Project Coordinator

Financial Report / Rapport financier 2005-2006



Continued / Suite ...

Expenditures 2005-2006 / Dépenses

