



2009 NATIONAL CONFERENCE: TOPICS TO BE PRESENTED DURING CONFERENCE PRESENTATION SESSIONS

PRESENTATION SESSION (1/12) | OCEANS GOVERNANCE

Title

Networks of MPAs: What needs to be done to move the MPA network agenda forward in Canada?

Summary & Questions

Canada is poised to miss international obligations for MPA network creation by a considerable margin. Many other countries have made significantly greater progress over recent years. Why Canada is under-performing in this area has been analysed by many groups.

What needs to be done to fix it and when will Canada be in compliance with international obligations?

Session Agenda/Format

This session will provide a forum for dialogue amongst key government personnel federal and provincial, First Nations, NGOs, academics and other stakeholders on key steps necessary for establishing an effective network of MPAs in Canada. Representatives of each group will be invited to provide short (eg 5 min), focused overviews of their views, followed by a facilitated discussion.

Expected outcomes & follow-up

The session will build upon previous OMRN resolutions on MPA network establishment and carry forward recommendations to decision-makers.

PRESENTATION SESSION (2/12) | OCEANS ACCOUNTABILITY

Title

Life after graduation: The future of our oceans' leaders

Summary & Questions

Life after graduation can make anyone anxious. Like many other sectors, oceans management is not immune to future shortage of professionals. With large number of people retiring, especially in the governmental system, there is a need to discuss accessibility to employment and the paths to get there. This discussion will present the roads that an academic, a bureaucrat, a private sector worker and an NGO person have taken from their post secondary education to their current positions. Participate in the questions and discussions to find out what your degree can bring you and what skills may be good to have to get where you want to go.

Expected outcomes & follow-up

The main goal of this session is to have an exchange with various professionals in the sector of oceans management in order to extract from their various paths of training the commonalities and lessons learned to have a successful career in this field. The main goals to is summarize the information and make it available for not only students but also federal government (especially DFO) as they require ways to increase interest in youth to be involved in such professions.

PRESENTATION SESSION (3/12) | CANADA'S ARCTIC

Title

Knowledge, Learning and Co-Management in the Arctic

Summary & Questions

The impacts of Arctic change on ecosystems, people and livelihoods are significant. Opportunities for Arctic communities to cope with and respond proactively to these changes are linked to processes that foster the development of shared knowledge (knowledge co-production) and a commitment to social learning. Multi-level institutional arrangements, networks and the role of boundary organizations are likewise recognized as important to adaption efforts. Papers in this session (up to five) will highlight new directions, strategies and recent experiences with adaptive and collaborative forms of governance aimed at supporting livelihoods and sustaining ecosystems. Insights will be of relevance to policy makers and practitioners, as well as co-management researchers.

PRESENTATION SESSION (4/12) | OCEANS ACCOUNTABILITY

Title

What matters most? Developing sensible indicators for the oceans

Summary & Questions

The conference presentation session titled “*What matters most? Developing sensible indicators for the oceans*” emphasizes the need to consider broad perspectives in determining what features of the ocean (natural and social) ecosystem that are most important and what kind of indicators should therefore be developed and employed to monitor the ocean health and the wellbeing of the people depending on it. These perspectives range from ecological, social-cultural, and economic to governance. Indicators developed based on the deliberation of the various perspectives and with consideration on their applicability to certain contexts are likely to be well suited to address local concerns. Such deliberation exercise is useful to encourage stakeholders’ support of government policies and implementation directing at improving the overall health of the ocean.

Session Agenda/Format

The session will begin with 12-minute presentations of four different perspectives by invited speakers to provide context for the facilitated roundtable discussion that will follow. Participants will be invited to express their opinion about what matters most and to share their experiences about indicators that they consider most useful.

Expected outcomes & follow-up

A summary highlighting main points made by the presenters and the general discussion will be prepared. A list of key indicators deliberated at the session will be compiled, along with some examples about the conditions by which they can be used most effectively. This list of indicators will be made available on OMRN website for further discussion.