



Welcome to C-Change

Kaitlin Fahey, Editor

As one of the Research Associates and the C-Change Administrator for Canada, I am very excited to be involved with the C-Change project. I look forward to working with all of the project partners and collaborators and am hopeful about the outcomes of this project for coastal communities.

Dan Lane, Co-Director (Canada)

The C-Change initiative is an exciting opportunity for our academic contributors, student researchers, and community partners especially because of the applied nature of our work and the required connection to our coastal communities. I am especially excited about the project's opportunity over the next five years to engage and learn from members of our coastal communities in Canada and the Caribbean region toward developing our preparedness in the face of the changing coastal environments.

Patrick Watson, Co-Director (Caribbean)

The C-Change initiative is long overdue in the notoriously vulnerable Caribbean coastal districts and we are extremely happy to be an integral part of it. We look forward to meeting the scholars, the policy makers, the community activists in the locations earmarked for study, all of whom are concerned with the impact of climate change, in particular the impacts associated with sea-level rise. It is also a pleasure to be working alongside our counterparts in Canada who share our concerns both for the Caribbean and for Canada.

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Co-Directors Watson and Lane (seated L to R) with Team members during September 2008 meeting in St. Augustine





Lighthouse, Charlottetown, PEI January 2009 © Don Poole

Admin Announcements

Community Coordinator (Canada) & Operations Manager (Canada)

C-Change is pleased to announce the appointment of Colleen Mercer Clarke and John Clarke in administrative roles with the C-Change project. Colleen is the C-Change Community Coordinator (Canada) responsible for liaising with our researchers and our C-Change community partner. Colleen's initial work will be to establish the C-Change Community Action Teams (C-CATs) from among our community partners.

John Clarke is the C-Change Operations Manager (Canada) responsible for monitoring our budget and maintaining the information flow among all C-Change team members and within and among our communities. John's assistance will be indispensable in ensuring effective and ongoing reporting to our C-Change members and our funders at SSHRC and IDRC.

Colleen and John have already made a considerable contribution to the vision and realization of C-Change and C-Change welcomes them in their evolving roles with the project.

“What does the ‘C’ in C-Change stand for? Caribbean, Canada, Communities, Coastal, Climate Change, & Collaboration...”

- Colleen Mercer Clarke, C-Change Community Coordinator

C-Change Advisory Board

The C-Change Secretariat is pleased to announce the formation of the C-Change Advisory Board. The C-Change Advisory Board has been formed to provide advice to the project team over the next 5 years of the study period.

The Advisory Board is comprised of C-FOAM (Canadian Fisheries Oceans and Aquaculture Management) members, and Canada and Caribbean project collaborators and experts. C-FOAM was instrumental in providing input and feedback to the development of the C-Change ICURA application. Furthermore, the expertise of C-FOAM members and other Advisory Board experts will be invaluable to the progression of the C-Change program. The Advisory Board will provide feedback on a semi-annual basis to the entire C-Change project team on the progress of the initiative in both Canada and the Caribbean.

Visit C-Foam on the web at:

www.c-foam.management.uottawa.ca

Administrator (Canada)

C-Change announces the appointment of Kaitlin Fahey to the position of Administrator of C-Change for the Canadian Secretariat located in Ottawa. Kaitlin's experience with the University of Ottawa is indispensable to the smooth running of the secretariat. Furthermore, Kaitlin's master's research (Dalhousie '08) on leatherback turtles provides C-Change with a keen and valuable research associate on aspects of direct interest to the project.

Administrator (Caribbean)

C-Change is happy to announce the appointment of Sheldon Warner to the position of Administrator of C-Change for the Caribbean Secretariat located in St Augustine, Trinidad. Sheldon has a long experience with the University of the West Indies and is known for the prompt and efficient manner in which he handles affairs there. We expect him to use this in managing the day to day affairs of the project here and for liaising with our counterparts in Canada.

Community Contributions

Canada

Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island is the provincial capital city with a population of 60,000. Charlottetown is a coastal port centre for industrial and commercial activities. Threats include impacts to infrastructure and historic downtown sites from flooding associated with predicted sea level rise and more frequent severe storm events.

Gibsons, British Columbia, voted the world's most liveable town in 2009, is located on the Sunshine Coast, within proximity to Vancouver. Gibsons is a popular resort town, and hosts significant eco-tourism and hiking/camping areas. Impacts from severe storms leading to waterfront erosion and risk of ground-water salinisation, are some of the communities threats.

Isle Madame, Nova Scotia is an archipelago of small coastal communities off Cape Breton Island, and a historic settlement area for Acadians. It is host to local fishing and marine recreational areas, and coastal eco-tourism sites. Threats include flooding from sea level rise and severe storms impacting unique transportation links and coastal infrastructure damage.

Iqaluit, Nunavut, the territorial capital city, is the largest community in the territory, with a population of more than 7,250. The terrestrial and marine Arctic environments are highly sensitive. Economic activities include: territorial and federal government offices, transportation hub (air and marine), and the role of country food in the local economy. Key environmental characteristics include permafrost and ground ice, as well as surface hydrology, sea ice, drifting snow, storms and flooding hazards. Cultural implications of climate change are important, especially on local food sources.

Caribbean

Belize, Barrier Reef is a series of island atolls on a 300 km section of the 2nd largest reef in world, the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef System, a World Heritage Site and popular destination for half of region's 260,000 tourists. The area also hosts shipping lanes. Threats include sea level rise and storm surge on coral reefs, coral bleaching, and impacts from local tourism, and fisheries.

Georgetown, Guyana is the national capital city and a coastal port for industrial and commercial activity. With a population of 215,000 residents it is the largest city in the region. Because the city stands 14' below sea level, it faces a number of threats such as breaching of the protective sea walls/dykes by storm surges and salt water contamination of local drinking water supplies.

Grande Riviere, located in the northeast corner of Trinidad is a small 'turtle village' of fishermen and small crop farmers. It is a popular eco-tourism area because of the protected nesting beaches for leatherback turtles. The area also hosts marine shipping lanes and important agricultural areas. Threats include the immediate potential impacts of sea level rise and severe storms.

Island of Bequia, an Island archipelago with coral reefs, is a popular boating area for cruising yachts and hosts an eco-tourism industry based on whale-watching. There are also significant natural habitats, native peoples' traditional marine hunting activities, and nearby shipping lanes. Threats include sea level rise and severe storms, damage to unique transportation links, and potential isolation due to infrastructure damage.



C-Change Communities & the C-CATS

C-Change Canada announces the formation of the C-Change Community Action Teams (C-CATS). The C-CATS will be formed with the assistance of the C-Change Community Partners to engage the wider local community. This initiative will be led by the Community Coordinator, Colleen Mercer Clarke. C-CAT members will be instrumental in the identification and engagement of key community participants in local interactive workshops, and in the training of local professionals and non-professionals, and in the development and finalization of the Community Adaptation Action Plans (CAAPs). The CAAP for each community will respond to a range of coastal change scenarios that are particularly reflective of local conditions and vulnerabilities and threats. The CAAP will rely on existing and proposed operational planning instruments as well as the existing and established mechanisms for emergency response.



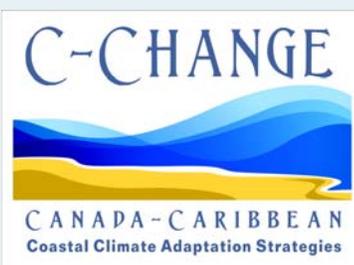
Introducing

The C-Change team is pleased to introduce the new C-Change Logo (pictured below).

In addition, we are also pleased to officially launch the C-Change Website and Facebook site. We hope that you find these tools useful and refer to them often.

As always we welcome your feedback and suggestions! Please visit our website to complete our online feedback form OR send an email with any question or ideas to:

administrator@coastalchange.ca



C-Change Website

Please visit, www.coastalchange.ca, to view the new C-Change website designed and developed by Moe Zoubi, a student of the Telfer School of Management at the University of Ottawa.

Here you will find a detailed summary of the project goals, a list of the team collaborators (including research roles and contact information), and a description of the community study areas. The website also presents the detailed project research program identifying the research objectives, methods, and expected outcomes of the study. As the project progresses, up-to-date reports and other documents will be published on the website under the Reports tab (i.e., Newsletters, Quarterly Reports, and Deliverables) and the Downloads tab (i.e., C-Change Reports, External Reports, Recent Publications, News Releases, and Community Documents).

The website also contains an events calendar and a gallery containing photographs related to the project work and community sites. If you have photographs about your community or climate events that you would like to include in this gallery please send them for posting to the C-Change Secretariat (administrator@coastalchange.ca).

C-Change & Facebook

That's right, C-Change is on Facebook. To view the C-Change Facebook page, Please visit www.facebook.com/coastalchange. If you are already a Facebook member, please support C-Change by becoming a member of our international on-line community! C-Change, believe it or not, is also on Twitter! To receive up-to-the-minute notices about the latest C-Change news and events, please subscribe to www.twitter.com/coastalchange.

C-Change

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