



INTERNATIONAL OCEAN INSTITUTE



FINAL REPORT

IOI-CANADA WORKSHOP ON COASTAL AND OCEAN GOVERNANCE FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES



7th – 11th October 2024

CONTENTS

	Page
Co-moderators' Introductions	1
Acknowledgements	3
International Ocean Institute	4
Workshop Overview	5
Sample Participant Feedback	7
Schedule	8
Participants	10
Speakers	11
IOI-Canada Contact Information	13

Photo credits from workshop: Kevin Deagle, Emilie Butler

CO-MODERATORS' INTRODUCTIONS



This year's workshop on Coastal and Ocean Governance for Indigenous Peoples was the third in a series offered by IOI-Canada that I have had the privilege of co-moderating with Chief Hugh Akagi of the Peskotomuhkati First Nation. Their genesis was the urging by the Indigenous participants of our annual eight-week Ocean Governance training programme to develop

such a workshop. They then became a reality with the generous support of DFO and the patient guidance of Chief Hugh Akagi, Ms Cathy Martin, Dr Sherry Pictou, Dr Shelley Denny, Mr Bryan Martin and many other Indigenous and non-Indigenous colleagues.

It was decided to move the location this year from Halifax to Millbrook, the home of the Millbrook First Nation. We were housed in the Hampton Hotel; the friendly staff and excellent facilities provided an ideal setting for the third workshop.

With a clear appreciation that IOI-Canada is still on a steep "learning curve", a draft schedule was prepared. It was based on the experience of the first two workshops (5-9 Dec. 2022 and 23-27 Oct. 2023), feedback from the participants, guidance from Indigenous colleagues and the need to further incorporate Indigenous Knowledge Systems. In addition to the priority objective of enhancing the participants' knowledge regarding the conservation of the estuarine, coastal and marine environment and contained ecosystems in the Maritimes, another benefit of many of the topics, both new and old, was their potential for job and career opportunities.

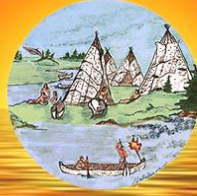
The topic of Earth Observation (remote sensing) and its relation to coastal and ocean management was introduced into the workshop series for the first time. It was engagingly presented by a Senior Earth Observation Expert with the Canadian Space Agency, whose participation was approved by the Director General of the CSA. Another new inclusion was language, specifically Mi'kmaq and its relation to water features, which was much appreciated by the participants. We were particularly fortunate that one of the Indigenous alumni from our 2018 Ocean Governance training programme provided an interactive presentation of this culturally important subject.

Depending on the financial support of sponsors, IOI-Canada in collaboration with current and perhaps new partners hopes to deliver another workshop on Coastal and Ocean Governance for Indigenous Peoples next autumn in Saint Andrews, NB, the territory of the Peskotomuhkati Nation. This location will be particularly convenient for Peskotomuhkati applicants on both sides of the Canada/US border, but also for members of the Maliseet and Mi'kmaq Nations to the north. The leadership of Chief Akagi, together with our much appreciated Indigenous and non-Indigenous colleagues, will again be critical for the successful delivery of what is hoped to be an increasingly innovative programme, as we continue to "proceed at the speed of trust."

Michael J.A. Butler
Director, IOI-Canada

Peskotomuhkati at Skutik

The People who Spear Pollock



I wish to submit this as my testament that this year's IOI (International Ocean Institute) Workshop on Coastal and Ocean Governance for Indigenous Peoples, 7th - 11th October 2024, was a complete success and to applaud the organizers for rising to the challenge of testing another venue (Truro, N.S.) with excellent facilities at the Hampton Inn and Suites. The attendance shows a need for further workshops such as these in the future, as the participants expressed their interest throughout with numerous questions and comments expressing confidence in the selection of speakers and subjects, rich in both diversity and disciplines.

The inclusion of such 'hot' topics as the Protected Areas, Alternate Energy (tidal power / wind), and Aquaculture (land and sea) covered numerous subjects often misunderstood throughout Native communities due to a lack of opportunity for access to the expertise put forth at this event. Add the UN Declaration and a lively presentation on Treaties, which are Native specific, and there proved to be something for everyone to maintain interest throughout the weeklong event.

I do understand the dedication of those who continue the vision of Elisabeth Mann Borgese and would like to believe that others and other organizations will continue to support their efforts through contributions of experienced presenters as well as capital necessary for the next workshop, hopefully in my territory, the home of the Peskotomuhkati. We are a sister Tribe to the Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqey Nations with a unique water base including the highest tides in the world with a richness in both nutrient and species diversity. We are also home to the oldest fisheries scientific research station in Canada and wish to highlight the successful return of many sea-run species of diadromous fish through the recent removal of the oldest dam in Canada to the very river that defines us. Our close proximity to the Wolastoq River would also encourage a greater participation from another Wabanaki Nation and its People (the People of the Beautiful River).

Success is never a guarantee, it is an effort put forth by those who are willing to give / share with others.

Hugh M. Akagi
Chief of the Peskotomuhkati Peoples

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

IOI-Canada acknowledges that Dalhousie University operates in the unceded territories of the Mi'kmaw, Wolastoqey and Peskotomuhkati Peoples. These sovereign nations hold inherent rights as the original peoples of these lands, and we each carry collective obligations under the Peace and Friendship Treaties. Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty rights in Canada.

We also wish to acknowledge major financial support for this workshop from Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) through its Oceans Management Contribution Program. DFO is a federal institution with responsibility for safeguarding Canada's waters and managing its fisheries and oceans resources. It helps to ensure healthy and sustainable aquatic ecosystems through habitat protection and sound science. DFO also supports economic growth in the marine and fisheries sectors, and innovation in areas such as aquaculture and biotechnology. Additional funding for the workshop was provided from IOI Headquarters, based in Malta. These generous contributions enabled us to organise and deliver the training free of charge.

“Thank you for this great opportunity”

Workshop participant

“Fantastic job by the organizers. Thank you for all you do!”

Workshop participant

In addition to these funders, we would like to express our deep appreciation and thanks to our Indigenous partners and advisors for their guidance, experience and patience throughout the planning, preparation and delivery of the workshop. Some also contributed as speakers, so to them and all the other individuals who gave presentations, led discussions and assisted on field trips, we extend sincere thanks.

Finally, IOI-Canada would like to express appreciation of its host organisation, Dalhousie University, which has provided crucial in-kind support for 45 years. Ocean studies are one of Dalhousie's main focuses and strengths – it was the first university in Canada with an Oceanography Department and subsequent Canadian firsts have been its Marine and Environmental Law Program, its Marine Affairs Program and its undergraduate degree in Ocean Sciences. Linked to its ocean learning, it has also developed a broad range of expertise in ocean research as exemplified by the work of the Ocean Frontier Institute, an inter-university initiative led by Dalhousie.

“I enjoyed this opportunity very much”

Workshop participant

INTERNATIONAL OCEAN INSTITUTE

IOI-Canada is a leading member of the International Ocean Institute’s network of centres and focal points operating worldwide in approximately 30 countries. One of the earliest IOI centres to be established, it was set up by Elisabeth Mann Borgese in 1979 soon after she arrived at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and it has been based at the university for the 45 years since then. It is one of the network’s designated Training Centres.



IOI-Canada’s home at Dalhousie University

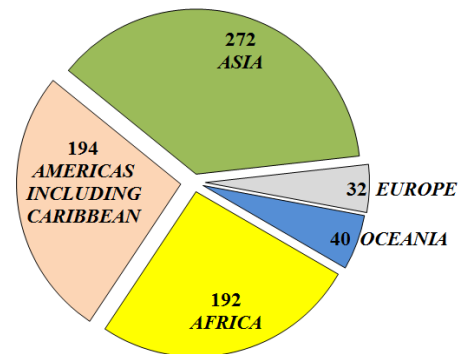
Registered as the “IOI-Canada Association”, IOI-Canada is a not-for-profit organisation, federally incorporated under the Canada Corporations Act and governed by a Board of Directors. It is guided by the IOI-Canada/Dalhousie Ocean Advisory Committee and staffed by an experienced team of professionals, augmented by Senior Research Fellows who contribute to its activities. The international headquarters of the IOI have been located in Malta since being founded in 1972 by Elisabeth Mann Borgese. Information on IOI headquarters and the network as a whole can be found at www.ioinst.org.

IOI-Canada’s mission is to promote responsible ocean governance and the stewardship and sustainable use of coastal and ocean resources in Canada and around the world. Its goals are to encourage and develop the potential and capacity of individuals, institutions and communities to foster:

- a network of individuals dedicated to effective coastal and ocean governance;
- management, education, training, research and outreach; and,
- sustainable and prosperous coastal communities.

IOI-Canada accomplishes its mission and goals through three main activities: education and training, collaborative research and outreach. The provision of interdisciplinary training is its major focus, and the institute’s flagship course in Halifax has trained nearly 740 individuals from over 100 countries around the globe. IOI-Canada has also collaborated on shorter programmes in several countries and in 2020 it started offering online courses due to covid restrictions. Both alumni and over 260 new participants worldwide have been able to benefit from these online courses during the pandemic and its aftermath, with particular interest in the self-paced option which provides flexibility for marine professionals fitting their studies around work or family responsibilities. The 2022 Workshop on Ocean Governance for Indigenous Peoples marked a welcome return to in-person training and has now been followed by two more in the series, as well as professional development days for teachers and BEd students.

ALUMNI OF FLAGSHIP COURSE BY REGION



WORKSHOP OVERVIEW



Planned with and for Indigenous Peoples from Mi'kma'ki, Wolastoqiyik and Peskotomuhkatik (Maritime Provinces), this in-person workshop took place in Millbrook, a Mi'kmaq community nearly 100 km from Dalhousie University. Based on guiding principles of Integrity, Reciprocity, Respect and Interaction, the workshop combined presentations, discussions, videos and field trips over the course of a week.

Participants were challenged to explore key aspects of coastal and ocean governance through an interdisciplinary approach, with particular attention to Indigenous needs, perspectives and knowledge systems. Topics included law and UNDRIP, fisheries and aquaculture, earth observation, conservation, alternative energy, and traditional Mi'kmaq language in the aquatic context. A total of 20 speakers, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, shared their knowledge and expertise. It was particularly nice to welcome back two of our Indigenous alumni as presenters, one from our 2018 training programme at Dalhousie and the other from the 2022 workshop for Indigenous Peoples. The detailed schedule and list of presenters are available below (pp. 8-9, 11-12 respectively).

As in previous years, publicity and participant recruitment were undertaken in collaboration with Indigenous partners throughout the region. Given the importance of creating an inclusive forum for learning and sharing perspectives and experiences, the group size was once again capped at 15*, even though this meant having to turn down some applicants. While most of the participants were Mi'kmaq, there was representation from all three Nations, as well as a good range of different backgrounds and experience. This, combined with the varied line-up of speakers, led to valuable opportunities for networking and exchange both during and beyond the workshop. See below for the participant list (p. 10).

“great week of learning and meeting new people :)”

Workshop participant

* A last-minute family emergency meant that one confirmed participant was unable to attend, so the group ended up as 14 plus an observer.



Field trips were woven into the schedule to complement and enrich the presentations and discussions. A guided tour of Sustainable Blue Fish Farm in Centre Burlington provided participants with an up-close look at an innovative land-based aquaculture operation, where salmon are raised in a unique saltwater closed-loop, land-based facility, discharging zero effluent back into the environment.

“it was a great time, and I learned a lot around salmon farming and more ”

Workshop participant

A second, shorter field trip took the group to the Millbrook Cultural & Heritage Centre, an award-winning Mi’kmaq museum close to the workshop venue. Participants were able to explore its historical and cultural exhibits and, among other things, deepen their understanding of “the Mi’kmaq perspective about the importance of the Bay of Fundy to the Mi’kmaq People of Se’ke’pne’katik”.

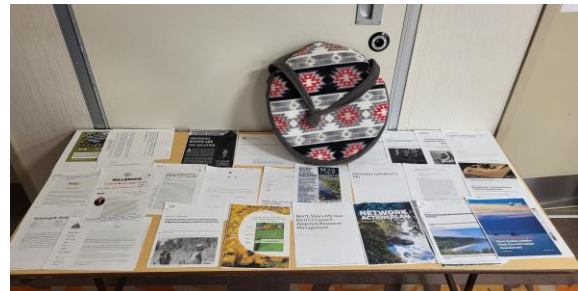
The final afternoon of the workshop included a debriefing session led by the co-moderators, which gave the participants an opportunity to provide verbal feedback on their experiences during the week, with an online evaluation after the event also allowing for written comments. The course wrapped up with a Closing Ceremony and the awarding of well-earned certificates.



In addition to creating learning opportunities through presentations and field trips, one of the workshop aims was to provide a useful selection of reference materials on topics relating to coastal and ocean governance, including Indigenous and western approaches. An initial list of recommended resources relevant to the workshop themes was therefore compiled and circulated in advance, including links to publications and videos. Speakers and participants were invited to add to it during the week, and print materials were also showcased in the meeting room. As well as helping provide context to the presentations during the workshop, the intention



was to build an interesting selection of resources which could be of value to draw on – and potentially share – after the participants returned to their work, studies and/or communities.



SAMPLE PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

(in their own words)

“What did you like most about the workshop?”

The opportunity to meet and share knowledge with others from different communities.

The Mi'kmaq language session presented by Phillip Prosper

Meeting other like-minded people

Field Trip

All of the information presented was interesting and applicable

Treaty talks

loved meeting new people and learning new things i can use in my role

Visiting the fish farm

“What, if anything, will you take from the course and actually USE in your work/studies/community?”

All of it...an incredible amount of useful information was shared and the contacts made with both the presenters and attendees are going to be helpful

Treaty information

I have got lots of information on wind energy, along with good connections from other community's I can use

the rights education presentation

Salmon aquaculture aspects

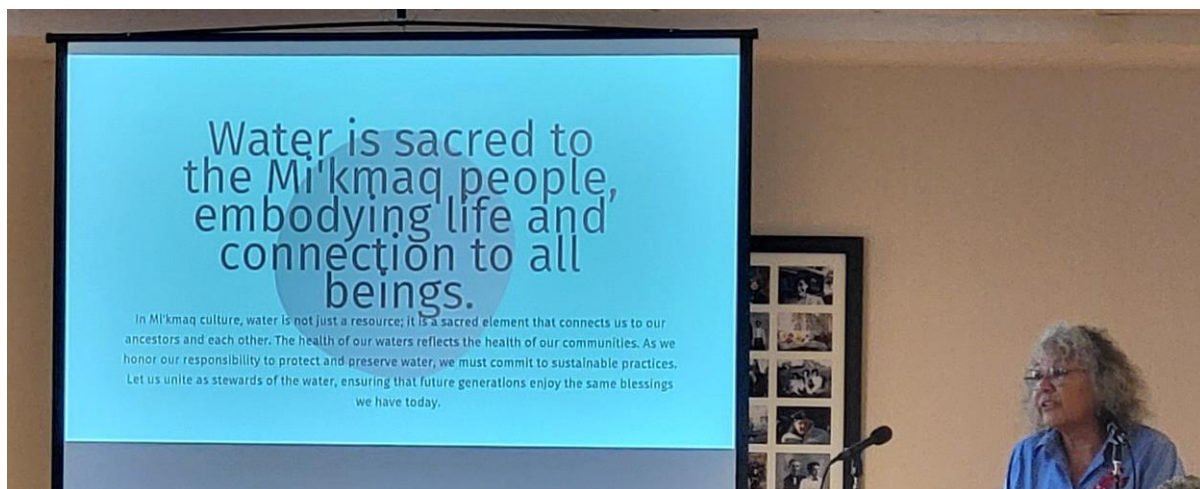
Treaty and law info

The field trip to the farm could be used in my community

SCHEDULE

<i>Guiding principles:</i> <i>Integrity, Reciprocity, Respect, Interaction</i>		
<i>Registration and Meet & Greet: Sunday 5.00 – 7.00 p.m.; late registration: Monday 8.30 – 9.00 a.m.</i>		
DAY 1 Monday 7th October		
9.00 – 10.30	Welcome Ceremonies and Introductions	Chief Hugh Akagi Ms Cathy Martin (via Zoom) Mr Michael Butler
<i>Break</i>		
10.45 – 12.00		
<i>Lunch</i>		
1.00 – 2.45	Introduction to Coastal and Ocean Governance, Law of the Sea, UNDRIP, Laws, Treaties, Acts and Social Equity	Ms Rosalie Francis Dr Sherry Pictou
<i>Break</i>		
3.00 – 4.30		
DAY 2 Tuesday 8th October		
9.00 – 3.00	Field Trip: Sustainable Blue fish farm, Centre Burlington (including boxed lunch)	Mr David Roberts Mr Justin Rogers
<i>Break</i>		
3.30 – 5.00	Cod, Coasts and Critters	Mr Geoffrey Hurley
DAY 3 Wednesday 9th October		
9.00 – 10.30	Salmon Governance, Restoration and Conservation	Dr Sarah Tuziak Dr Shelley Denny
<i>Break</i>		
10.45 – 12.00		
<i>Lunch</i>		
1.00 – 2.45	Offshore Wind: Challenges and Opportunities	Elder Lorraine Whitman Mr Zach Sabeau
<i>Break</i>		
3.00 – 4.30	Visit to Millbrook Cultural & Heritage Centre	Ms Heather Stevens Mr Jeff Wilmot

DAY 4 Thursday 10th October		
9.00 – 10.30	Tidal Power: Challenges and Opportunities	Ms Lindsay Bennett
<i>Break</i>		
10.45 – 12.00	The Mi'kmaq Language and its Aquatic Relationships	Mr Phillip Prosper
<i>Lunch</i>		
1.00 – 2.45	Earth Observation as a Coastal and Ocean Management Tool	Mr Dirk Werle
<i>Break</i>		
3.00 – 4.30		
DAY 5 Friday 11th October		
9.00 – 10.30	Conservation Mosaics, IPCAs and MPAs	Ms Melissa Labrador Ms Leah McConney Ms Gabrielle Beaulieu
<i>Break</i>		
10.45 – 12.00		
<i>Lunch</i>		
12.30 – 1.30	Debriefing Session, Certificate Awards and Closing Ceremony	Chief Hugh Akagi Mr Michael Butler
1.30 onwards	Departure	All



PARTICIPANTS



Ms Carolyn Bernard, Advocate, Paqtnkek First Nation

Ms Theresa Carter, Senior Natural Resource and Environment Officer, Glooscap First Nation

Mr Raymond Christmas, Director, Membertou Fisheries

Ms Victoria Cluney, Fisheries Researcher, Mi'gmawe'l Tplu'taqnn Incorporated

Ms Rena Falls, Fisheries Financial Administrator, Acadia First Nation

Mr Rick Gould, Retired Fisherman, Eskasoni

Ms Cynthia Howland, Executive Assistant to Chief Akagi, Peskotomuhkati Nation at Skutik

Ms Chelsey Karbowski, Director, Indigenous Training and Skills Development Hub

Mr Leonard Nicholas, Fisheries Director, Tobique First Nation

Ms Edna Paul, Member, Eskasoni Mi'kmaw Nation

Ms Karen Pierro, Member, Wagmatcook First Nation

Ms Kim Reeder*, Energy Advisor, Passamaquoddy Recognition Group Inc. (PRGI)

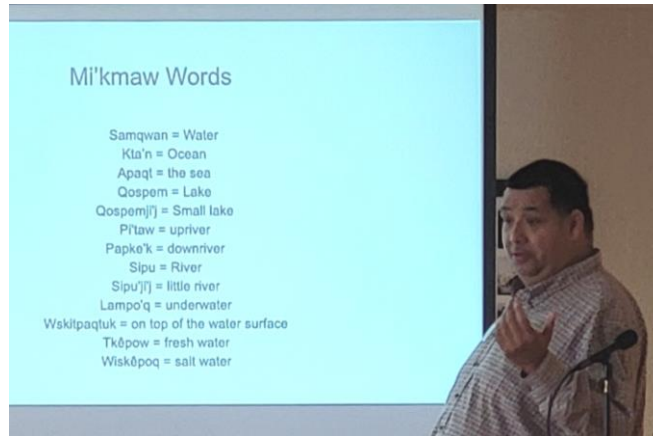
Mr Fred Sylliboy, Fleet Manager, Paqtnkek Mi'kmaw Nation

Ms Jennifer Sylliboy, Human Environment Specialist, Two Worlds Consulting & Doctoral Student in Applied Science

Mr Alfred Young, Resource Management Officer Technician, Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq

* Observer

SPEAKERS



Chief Hugh Akagi (workshop co-moderator), Skutik Community Chief & Executive President, [Peskotomuhkati Nation at Skutik](#)

Ms Gabrielle Beaulieu, Project Manager, Marine Establishment, [Parks Canada](#)

Ms Lindsay Bennett, Executive Director, [Fundy Ocean Research Centre for Energy \(FORCE\)](#)

Mr Michael Butler (workshop co-moderator), Director, [IOI-Canada](#), Dalhousie University

Dr Shelley Denny, Senior Advisor, [Unuma'ki Institute of Natural Resources](#); & Adjunct Professor, [Marine Affairs Program](#), Dalhousie University

Ms Rosalie Francis, Indigenous Lawyer, [RFrancis Law](#); & Member of Board of Governors, [Gorsebrook Research Institute](#), Saint Mary's University

Mr Geoffrey Hurley, Independent Environmental Consultant and retired Research Biologist

Ms Melissa Labrador, Senior L'nu Advisor on Conservation and Climate Change, [Oceans North](#)

Ms Cathy Martin, Director, Indigenous Community Engagement, [Office of the Vice-Provost, Equity and Inclusion](#), Dalhousie University

Ms Leah McConney, Oceans Biologist, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, [Bedford Institute of Oceanography](#)

Dr Sherry Pictou, Honorary District Chief, [Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq](#); Associate Professor of Law and Management & Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Governance, [Schulich School of Law](#) and [Faculty of Management](#), Dalhousie University

Mr Phillip Prosper, Keptin of the Mi'kmaq Grand Council and Mi'kmaw Language & Social Studies Teacher, [Whycomagh Education Centre](#)



Mr David Roberts, Chief Sustainability Officer, [Sustainable Blue](#) Fish Farming

Mr Justin Rogers, Process Engineer, [Sustainable Blue](#) Fish Farming

Mr Zachary Sabeau, Renewable Energy Engagement Coordinator, [Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq](#)

Ms Heather Stevens, Manager & Senior Heritage Interpreter, [Millbrook Cultural & Heritage Centre](#)

Dr Sarah Tuziak, Integrated Planning Biologist, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, [Bedford Institute of Oceanography](#)

Mr Dirk Werle, Senior Earth Observation Expert, [Canadian Space Agency](#)

Elder Lorraine Whitman, Committee Member, [Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia](#), & President, [Native Women's Association of Canada](#)

Mr Jeff Wilmot, Store Supervisor & Senior Heritage Interpreter, [Millbrook Cultural & Heritage Centre](#)

Wela'lioq. Woliwon. Thank you.

IOI-CANADA CONTACT INFORMATION

International Ocean Institute
Dalhousie University
6414 Coburg Road, P.O. Box 15000
Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3H 4R2, Canada
Tel: 1 902 494 1977 • E-mail: ioi@dal.ca • Web: www.dal.ca/ioihfx

STAFF

Mr Michael Butler
Director & Workshop Co-Moderator

Tel: 1 902 494 1977
E-mail: michael.butler@dal.ca

Ms Madeleine Coffen-Smout
Programme Officer

Tel: 1 902 494 6918
E-mail: madeleine.coffen-smout@dal.ca

Ms Kimberlie Ferrier
Finance Officer

Tel: 1 902 494 8018
E-mail: ioiadmin@dal.ca

SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS

Mr Paul Boudreau

E-mail: paulboudreau@dal.ca

Dr Sean Brilliant

E-mail: seanb@cwf-fcf.org

Dr Ratana Chuenpagdee

E-mail: ratanac@mun.ca

Mr Scott Coffen-Smout

E-mail: scott.coffen-smout@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Dr Susanna Fuller

E-mail: susannadfuller@gmail.com

Mr David Griffiths

E-mail: david.griffiths@dal.ca

Dr Larry Hildebrand

E-mail: lh@wmu.se

Dr Tony George Puthucherril

E-mail: tonygeorge00@gmail.com

Dr Suzuette Soomai

E-mail: suzette.soomai@dal.ca

Dr Peter Wells

E-mail: oceans2@ns.sympatico.ca

Mr Hugh Williamson

E-mail: hrwillia@dal.ca

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr Daniel Lane (Chair)

E-mail: daniel.lane@usaintanne.ca

Ms Anita Coady

E-mail: c/o ioi@dal.ca

Prof. Ian McAllister

E-mail: ian.mcallister@dal.ca

Ms Patricia Mueller Rodee

E-mail: c/o ioi@dal.ca

Mr Daniel Watt

E-mail: daniel.watt@mcinnescooper.com