

2011 draft Coastal Strategy Online survey Submissions

**The following is a compilation of all comments received through the online public survey on the draft Coastal Strategy. A total of sixty-seven surveys were filled out between October 13th and December 16th 2011.

For ease of review we have listed the responses by question as posed in the survey. The responses below appear verbatim as entered online. Where submissions included personal contact information such as addresses, email, and/or telephone numbers, these details have been removed from this document to protect personal privacy. Each bullet represents a separate entry submission.

Please contact the PON Secretariat team at ourcoast@gov.ns.ca if you have any questions, concerns, or would like to see this information in another format.

Submissions online were made under the names of the following individuals [D3]:

- Doug MacInnis
- Rohit Khanna
- Alex Parker
- Benjamin Emodi
- Sean Day
- Trevor Nickerson
- Kristy Herron
- James Goodick
- John Glynn-Morris
- James Betts
- Jeff Sunderland
- Susan Morrison
- Carla Conrod
- Eric Grant
- Larry Hildebrand
- Joan Lewis
- Sindy Horncastle
- Amie Hannon
- Lynn Baechler
- Mary Gorman
- Michael Davies
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- Peter D Finley
- Hugh J Haley
- Alexi Baccardax Westcott
- Amanda Loder
- Joan Lewis
- Ian Watson
- Rebecca Duggan
- Alexandra Grootkoerkamp
- Devon Peavoy
- Daniel Earle
- Lou Kamermans
- Mark Tipperman
- Albert Dunphy
- Lorna Williamson
- Joan Lewis
- James F Boiduk
- Barbara Carthew
- Cyril Dicks
- Jen Powley
- Ruth E. Smith
- Katherine Kitching
- Dominique Gusset
- Dale Smith
- Sindi McGrath
- Don Aldous
- Doug Linzey
- Paul Pross
- Paul Wayne Comeau
- Judith Smits
- Nathan Bald
- Catherine Pross
- Anonymous (multiple)

Organizational Affiliation (if entered) [D5]:

- Town of Antigonish
- Digby Area Board of Trade
- Member of Price's Inlet Area Advisory Committee
- Digby Harbour Port Association
- Canadian Yachting Association, Nova Scotia Yachting Association
- Mayday Shelburne County

- Bras d'Or Stewardship Society
- Save Our Seas and Shores Coalition
- Coldwater Consulting Ltd.
- Municipality of the County of Kings - Planning Services
- Hike Nova Scotia
- Tusket River Environmental Protection Association
- Municipality of the County of Annapolis
- Board Member Sydney Harbour Fishers Association
- Friends of Port Mouton Bay

**[Coastal Development] Do the goals and objectives establish the right overall direction for this issue?
[CD2]**

- I do not see anything in the report regarding maintaining the right to protect private property and homes along the coastline. Before I can support this document I require a level of comfort that I will continue to have the right to protect my property by placing anchor rock along my private property as I do now.
- Yes
- Coastal development that accommodates natural coastal processes would be well served by being elaborated on in the context of prevention, as in the prevention of ecological and landscape degradation as well as the prevention of the decline of coastal access. In that regard I am encouraged that the objectives make note of industries which are not typically associated with the coast, such as forestry and agriculture.
- Generally, yes, however the issue of governance (land use control) at the municipal level must be better addressed.
- yes
- the objectives do little to support the desire to grow the economy or development sustainable industries. the objectives are just too narrow. also what are the natural coastal processes? I can guess but a little more detail would be helpful.
- Yes
- Yes
- Sustainable coastal development would be a more appropriate title for this section (as used appropriately at bottom of pg. 8). The strategy calls for 'balancing' various environmental, social, cultural and economic needs'; how will this 'balance' be determined and which needs take greater precedence over the others? Implying that they are equal is unrealistic. Given the province's 'jobsHere' focus, I suspect that economic will predominate. Be upfront with the public if this is in fact the case; we can work with that. The goal of 'accommodating' natural coastal processes within coastal development worries me! Coastal processes (including coastal erosion) are fundamental determinants of how the coast is and will continue to change and it is the dynamic coast that should determine development potential and patterns, not as some afterthought.
- The fact that the Coastal Strategy does not address the NSDFA's plan to promote industrial scale open-pen salmon farming is a major omission in any kind of coastal planning, considering the amount of pollution each farm site generates. The NSDFA has already approved industrial-sized farms of 1,000,000 fish in St. Mary's Bay - five times the size of the average farm site in N.B. We

do not have the 25 ft. tides that the Bay of Fundy has - fishermen in southwest N.B. report that open-pen salmon aquaculture has turned their once productive traditional fishing grounds into marine deserts (Coastal CURA report, 2011). The goals of prioritizing areas of the coastline for conservation and protecting more coastal land, should be realized before proceeding with large scale industrial development, such as open-pen fish aquaculture. The NSDFA has targeted the entire coastline of South-west Nova for large scale open-pen aquaculture BEFORE any safeguards have been put into place. There may be regulations around how aquaculture is practiced, but they have never been enforced by any level of government. This issue is also relevant to the goal of improving coastal water quality by decreasing pollution sources - completely contradictory to industrial scale open-pen aquaculture development. It is the only food production industry that is not required to clean up its waste.

- The goals and objectives do establish the right overall direction, however, I see a need for further research into the effects of aquaculture on the coastal ecosystems (particularly the industry of open-pen fish farming which has devastated coastal environments in Canada and beyond. Also concerned about the nutrient loading and algae blooms that harm the water quality and its resources).
- Issue of coastal development is an important one. The goal of 'coastal development that accommodates natural coastal processes' speaks mainly to the influence of development on the coast rather than the effect of the coast on development. I feel that this issue needs to be better coordinated with [Sea-level rise and storm events]. Objective 1 in [Coastal Development] in particular should somehow be linked or merged with Objective 1 in [Sea-level rise...].
- Yes, although I am concerned that an ephemeral body like a government will yield to short-term pain like yelling from business and industry, whose (also short-sighted) whims tend to be perceived by governments as overriding needs of society.
- The management of coastal development must also consider the effect of inland usage, especially around streams and rivers, the erosion from which are causing serious problems of silting into wetlands and saltwater marshes. It must also identify specific use of water and waterfronts that are of particular significance to the long-term sustainability of water, such as current extension into aquaculture and fracturing, and develop credible, ecologically sound policies and practices in these areas.
- Yes I believe so.
- Absolutely.
- The goal is clear enough, but how does this address the aforementioned various environmental, social, cultural, and economic needs? certainly, protecting the natural coastal processes is very important, yet there's more to it than that. I wonder how a strategy presented as 'complex' could offer a single goal for coastal development - ?
- Mostly gibberish.
- Coastal Development: Management of aquaculture is a particularly sticky issue and needs to be brought forward for specific attention.
- Sustainable coastal development should not just accommodate natural coastal processes because the terminology implies minimal effort. If provincial regulation is the foreseeable solution to promote appropriate residential, commercial and infrastructure projects, the private and public sector must be of the mind to not just meet standards but exceed them. In this respect overshooting may lead to successful adaptive management.
- No, there is no emphasis on the need for coastal preservation, nor the need to concentrate coastal development within urban areas. The goals will leave the door open to continued sprawl

along and near the coast. The draft suggests the province is giving much too high a priority to short term employment and economic exploitation at the expense of an irreplaceable resource.

- The Goal is confusing if one looks the statment in the context as to what is a natural coastal process (for example, erosion); the question is then how does coastal development accommodate the natural coastal process of erosion? The objectives are clear in that development should be built in ways to minimize impacts to and from the coast. However, building activity along a coast will change the coast and this change makes the coast no longer natural. The second objective omits speaking of the provincially regulated activity of resource extraction such as gravel pits.
- The Goal should accommodate AND MANAGE, effectively and efficiently, any coastal process AND procedure. - The Objectives and Actions should also include the consideration and respect for any and all property rights (with respect to adjacent private land owners, beds of all water bodies, beds of, or those of First Nations). In doing so, jurisdiction questions may arise which may need to be managed more effectively since Land and Water issues are varied and complex (e.g. boundaries of, jurisdictional, extent and location of, rights to beds of certain water bodies, boundary definition of water boundaries, management of all information including private and public information).
- Yes, although I consider lakes and inland waterways equally important
- YES
- Yes if coastal development includes protecting the jobs is a priority along with the inhabitants culture
- The goal uses the word 'accommodate' natural processes. I think this has priorities reversed. I think human activity should come second. The coast shouldn't accommodate, we should make changes for coastal health. I find the second objective quite broad. When it mentions 'provincially regulated activites' does that include municipal activities - if municipalities are seen as creatures of the province, it should.
- There should also be something mentioned about preservation here. As well as regulating existing planned development, we should talk about development vs. preservation more generally - is coastal development a priority, or should we be trying to work towards keeping further development to a minimum? Also, development might be considered in the context of developing public access mechanisms, and educational signage, etc.
- yes
- The goal of coastal development accomodating natural coastal processes implies that development, as in residential, commercial and industrial uses, are predominant over the environmental aspects/elements inherent in the coastal zone. More appropriate wording might be along the lines of coastal development in harmony with natural processes or coastal development that recognizes, respects and does not impact on or impede natural processes .
- define natural coastal processes - is fishing in the sea natural? are fishfarms natural? is a home on the ocean natural? you need to clarify what the government considers natural coastal processes . Government needs to put in place measurable/scientific ways to monitor our impact on the coastlines. Your overall objectives are painted with too broad a brush and need to be refined. It's almost like you've stated a company's mission statement for the public. Where's the beef?
- YES
- Yes. My only qualm is with the term sustainable development. Nowadays it almost inevitably emphasizes the development, not the environment, to which the term originally referred.

Without defining sustainable development up front, it's wide open to the reader's interpretation.

- Yes, but the provincial government should be more proactive. It should mount strong educational programs and it should lead by example and with programs that go beyond simply minimizing human impacts. i.e. provincial actions should restore/enhance natural processes.
- Minimizing impacts from coastal development is certainly an essential element in the strategy, however protection from future coastal development would do more to accommodate natural coastal processes.

[Coastal Development] What actions do you think will be the most effective for achieving the goals and objectives? What actions do you think are the most important? [CD3]

- PROPER PLANNING AT THIS INITIAL STAGE IS MOST IMPORTANT. WIDE ROADS AND SPACE FOR MORE EXPANSION IN FUTURE, LAND DEVELOPMENT BY DEVELOPERS FOR PLOT ALLOCATION TO PRIVATE PUBLIC AND SOURCE OF INCOME FOR THE PROVINCE, SEPARATE ISOLATED AREAS, AWAY FROM THE HABITATION, TO BE EAR MARKED FOR WIND TURBINES, PLACES OF INTEREST FOR TOURISM.
- Coastal setbacks, hands down. This action will achieve many of the objectives set out in the draft strategy
- The coast is obviously more than a collection of rocks and sand being washed by salt water, but it is too easy and narrow sighted to target and judge success by the quality of our beaches. The water adjacent to our shorelines provides essential habitat for multiple algae, crustacean, fish and bird species. The plant community near the beaches and cliffs are often comprised of unique assemblages of species capable of surviving the conditions of the saltwater mist and harsh weather. The saltwater marshes provide an incredible abundance of life fro insects, fish and water dwelling mammals. Development is economically and socially important for Nova Scotia, and I do not wish to sound that I am opposed to it. However, if a shoreline looks healthy but nearby sensitive ecosystems are struggling, the goal of coastal development as stated in the strategy, has failed.
- again once the objectives are narrow that action plan is as well
- Keep the coastal area of the province accessable by providing the facilities local and visiting coastal cruisers require.
- Establishing (and enforcing) coastal development standards and partnering with municipalities to establish planning strategies and land-use by-laws are good, tangible priorities. The province should look to New Brunswick's coastal area protection policy and its 3-zone approach to the coast as a sensible way to bring life to this approach. Increasing awareness and knowledge is important, but realistically, such a passive approach will not 'lead to changes in behaviour and business practices' by themselves, as the draft strategy implies. Need much more here.
- The development of any kind of coastal planning should include discussions with fishermen. It should also include having protections in place BEFORE large scale development takes place. The fact that the federal government is considering a regulatory change to allow the aquaculture industry the ability to use a wider array of pesticides, some of which are toxic to lobster and lobster larvae, is troubling and even more reason why our NDP government needs to safeguard our traditional inshore fisheries before promoting large scale coastal industrial development.
- The government needs to fully investigate the potential risks of any coastal development proposal. The government also needs assure proper monitoring and MITIGATION of current

coastal industries. The priority must be to make decisions that protect vital resources for today and future generations (seafood harvesting, recreation, tourism, culture, etc).

- Development standards that are based on definition of coastal hazards (flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches). This is effectively the 'goal' for this topic. It, in turn, relies on the other 3 actions.
- Frequent reporting to the public, and VERY public cooperation among all levels of government.
- Closer study of the effects of development along rivers and streams have on ocean front and their neighbouring brackish and marshy waterways. Monitoring and enforcement of inland development that is damaging the ecology of waterways and wetlands. Identification of the effects of new practices, such as fish farming and fracturing, and develop careful policies and regulations that monitor and enforce longterm ecologically sustainable impact.
- All are good, but, most effective/ important: Partner with municipalities to establish planning strategies and land-use by-laws in coastal areas. It is important that municipal land-use plans and bylaws take into account the coastal environment. Planning strategies provide a legal framework for coastal planning and development standards.
- It's a toss-up between coastal development standards and awareness for both importance and effectiveness. Land-use regulations are crucial around coastal areas, but they can be seen as draconian by home owners or developers who don't understand coastal processes and just want to build the beachfront home.
- I'm not sure if these actions are presented in any particular order, but it seems that since we know so little about the coast, its geological & living system processes, management options, in-situ heritage & culture, etc. then understanding these things has to precede any sort of planning strategies. If you don't know the body, or the symptoms, how can you possibly fix anything? e.g. basic question - how far do you place a setback? Anyway, it seems that the last presented actions should take place first.
- I think when it comes to development, especially coastal development, as much of these ecosystems are highly volatile we need to approach their development with precaution. The precautionary principal is a useful tool in legislation, I think it needs to be enforced more thoroughly
- What is 'coastal development' particularly as people can take away from our bays any amounts of seafood they choose? It sounds as though you are simply putting all the burden on the landowners and continuing the freefall for the privateers .
- Coastal Development: Under development standards, thinking about classes of uses, as in traditional zoning would be helpful. Perhaps development on the coast should be restricted to uses that have a good reason to be there. For example, housing takes advantage of view, a good reason for a coastal site. A general purpose warehouse with no need for water access should be somewhere else. We think putting the coastal environment first in emphasis sets the tone for a more balanced approach to coastal zone management. If we don't start with a sound understanding of the coastal forms and processes, a full inventory of resources, and an appreciation for the dynamic quality of the coastal zone we have no chance of integrating sustainable uses into it.
- Developing and enforcing a comprehensive list of coastal development standards will be essential to promoting responsible coastal development. These standards should be based on recent and reliable information concerning the local areas capacities and vulnerabilities. A required coastal development assessment could be tailored to a variety of coastal areas so there is room for adaptation instead of standardization, which could otherwise see sensitive areas

developed and economically viable areas not. Also, the creation of market based incentives such as higher property taxes for coastal properties could act as a disincentive to purchase or build such properties.

- Except within urban boundaries, prohibition of all development along and near the coast. Non-motorized public access to the coast. Public acquisition of land and development rights along and near the coast for parks and wildlife habitat.
- For Annapolis County - We do not believe that residential development along our Coastline should be viewed as a negative issue. We believe that of all of the forms of development, residential development, carried out in accordance with the current regulatory processes, has the least negative impact on our Coastline and the Inter-tidal Zone. The concern about Public Access and the impediments thereto resulting from developmental activity can be addressed by the sub-strategy within the Public Coastal Access issue. The Province does need Statements-of-Interest related to Coastal development, which Statements-of-Interest would be reflected in Municipal Planning Strategies for Coastal areas. The Statements-of-Interest need to deal with the six key issues (Public Coastal Access, Working Waterfronts, Coastal Development, Coastal Water Quality, Sea Level Rise and Storm Events and Sensitive Coastal Ecosystems and Habitats). Additionally, the Province should develop and distribute model policies and by-laws in order to clearly demonstrate the intent of the States-of-Interest.
- All are important, but some listed may not actually be Actions, but rather, more administrative outcomes in nature. An Action should read more like: To reduce and manage impacts of climatic effects on coast lines and any adjacent land and waters; and, to create and manage a system of land and water management (or something to that effect). Also, and a significant Action item required pertains to actual property owners. Many properties in C.B. and throughout N.S. have been in Families for several generations!! They are the ones that can speak best to this issue and who should be consulted. They are the ones who are seeing (physically today, and on old photos, oral history and traditions) and feeling, the brunt of the changes in climate and weather across and along the coasts/shore and the impacts (loss of land, financial costs and burden) on property/land along the coast/shore and any of waters as well (brooks, creeks, ponds, lakes) due to timing of storms which are now experienced throughout the year, the type of storms, the number of and magnitude of storms, storm surges, fewer cold winters and less snow and ice, and lack of ice in general on the lakes/water (or none! e.g. Bras d'or Lakes "it doesn't freeze up any more folks" remember when we used to skate on the lake or take a snowmobile across to Washabuck or drive in your Dad's truck on the ice when you were a kid? I can't do that anymore, and haven't in years!). The cumulative effects of climate and weather on land (and property) which adjoin the coast/shores, or any adjacent land/property, are significant and require, certainly, real and specific action. Having some pragmatic solutions, direction, guidelines and support (incentive, grants) from government (s) to help property owners protect their property is strongly and highly recommended.
- Set backs and buffers for development to start Movement to remove existing development to new setbacks or a coastal credit scheme in the short term
- 1. establish which Dept. has the ultimate authority, responsibility and accountability for overseeing coastal management eg. development and public education of regulations; monitoring of development; overseeing of adherence to the regulations. 2. ensure support of municipalities and coastal communities to ensure effective education, commitment to and adherence to regulations. 3. impact assessment and research - to ensure appropriate means of measurement, safeguarding and monitoring of sustainable coastal management.

- Gov ,,,, if it is concerned about job loss and says its strives to promote work please look at regulations , requirements DFO promotes broad consultations leading to all sensible requests will be considered while trying to promote economic viabilitywhata Crock.
- All of the noted actions are important and it is only by actually acting on them that coastal development will change. That's why it is important for the regulations to be implemented sooner rather than later. The lack of timelines and allocation of responsibility to particular departments is startling. The document my be a draft, but it is still a plan of action.
- I am in favour of strong legislation regulating where and when development can take place, and how this development should (or should not) take place. I would like to see these actions be as strong as possible (ie not just guidelines but laws/regulations), and also I'd like to see a timeframe attached to when these regulations will be developed.
- Establish coastal development standards which incorporate up-to-date knowledge about coastal processes.
- The Province must take a leadership role in coastal zone planning and management. Under current provisions of the Municipal Government Act, Statements of Provincial Interest represent a key tool available to the Province in guiding municipalities where matters of provincial interest may be impacted by decisions at the local level. The strategy should give clear direction with respect to statements of interest that apply to the coastal zone, and mandate municipalities to prepare comprehensive land use plans for the coastal zone within their respective areas of jurisdiction. Recognizing the complexities of coastal zone delineation, various boundaries could be used to reflect differing interests, concerns and/or criteria (e.g. hazard lands, marginal areas of interest for public access, viewsapes or watersheds). Establishment of standards should address not only development but also environmental protection .
- Actions: My concern exactly.. we have standards in place which the government developed and is currently enforcing (and I use the word lightly) but there seems to be a disconnect between existing regulations and enforcement, of which there seems to be none. Here we are again with a government trying to rewrite the book when the existing book of rules, regs, and standards are ignored and not enforced. So, my question is, what is this all about? Get the public's input, but then manipulate that input and scientific data to get businesses mandates pushed through? Or, will the government really put some bite into the rules and regulations? Or, are we just mapping the ecologically sensitive coastline for further development in a continuing willy nilly fashion in favour of businesses and development and not good ecological standards.
- LEGISLATION
- Standards are crucial. Collaboration and education are important, but re bylaws, the province should make the laws and regulations that the municipalities have to honour (preferably within a stipulated time) -- the way solid waste disposal was handled is a good starting point.
- All of these actions are helpful. On planning the Province's existing policies sometimes hamper municipal initiatives. In our community (Bayport, Riverport, Kingsburg) it has been difficult to call for the enforcement of carefully developed municipal plans because conflicting Provincial legislation or standards have priority.
- Any action in isolation will be ineffective. Coastal development standards cannot be established without knowledge of coastal processes and must include cooperation at municipal levels. What is lacking in the draft is any concrete time-lines for achieving the stated goals.

[Coastal Development] How can you or your organization / community help achieve the goals and objectives? What can the provincial government do to encourage and support your help? [CD4]

- A THREE DIMENSIONAL COMPUTER MODEL TO BE DEVELOPED FIRST AND FOREMOST FOR THE AVERAGE POLITICIAN/GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND THE COMMON MAN. THIS WILL BE THE BASIS OF DISCUSSIONS AND DETAILED PLANNING. THE AGE OF BLUE PRINTS IS OVER.
- Community education and involvement in the form of guided walks or presentations at local high schools or libraries. There are always people passionate about nature who would jump at the chance to share their knowledge. A liaison, perhaps something that town and municipal governments could help coordinate, would help to organize these events. Once even a few members of the community become more knowledgeable then there suddenly becomes new sets of eyes to help watch for negative impacts of development, to ensure that the goal of coastal development is met.
- Through municipal planning, we can address many of the concerns raised in the public consultation and noted in the draft. We need Provincial support however both in terms of information (DEMs, expected ocean level rise etc., local weather data), tools (standardized flood modelling software) and most importantly, all areas must be involved in the effort (everyone has to do planning wrt coastal zone management).
- clean ups, supportive to change
- my comment here will be the same as in all the other 6 issues. basically the strategy is at a very macro level. there is no details at this time on what areas will be a priority, what the process is for moving forward, what interest groups will be involved, how they will be involved, how will the public be involved, how much capital and expense will be involved both by the gov't and the public, what safe guards will there be for private property owners .how much will this new organization cost on an annual basis. i also hope that at some point in this process that there will be performance measures and stewardship.
- Our organization provides the training and experience to allow new and developing coastal cruisers to operate safely and responsibly.
- You will gain my support by moving quickly and decisively on the establishment of coastal development standards (that recognize the dynamics, limits and resilience of coastal systems first) and partnering with municipalities in establishing planning strategies and land-use by-laws (that are not restricted in view and scope to only the 'land' side of the coastal zone).
- Our organization is committed to the preservation of the ecosystem and lobster habitat of Jordan Bay (as identified in the N.S. Coastal Strategy Survey as being a concern of 62.8 % of respondents). We have submitted many documents to the NSDFA and the premier's office, detailing the estuarine current flow, the high numbers of berried female lobsters, and the risk that the estimated 3,000,000 lbs. of waste from the proposed 3X100 acre open-pen salmon farms would have in our area. We have asked the provincial government to stop issuing leases for open-pen fish sites that threaten sensitive areas, such as lobster nurseries. Our local economy is heavily dependent on a healthy lobster fishery. We are also working together within our community to develop non-polluting businesses that can work side-by-side with lobster fishermen - preserving the habitat of our pristine bay while creating local jobs. The federal government is now considering allowing the aquaculture industry to use a wider array of pesticides, some of which are toxic to lobster and lobster larvae. We see this as direct threat to communities dependent on the traditional lobster fishery. The provincial government could protect our communities by stopping the promotion of open-pen fish aquaculture until an economic and cultural study is done (as described in the N.S. Fisheries and Coastal Resources Act) to determine the costs and benefits to proposed alterations to traditional harvesting.

- Mayday-Shelburne County is an ever growing group of thousands of concerned citizens (fish harvesters, irish moss harvesters, crustacean and mollusk harvesters, citizen who live near or just care about the marine environment) who have not been heard in their plea for answers to questions and concerns regarding the threat of open-pen fish farming industry. The government must keep their promise for accountability and transparency.
- We can be sure that we inform each other, and you can offer frequent, fully open disclosure (never seen that yet, but it would be fun).
- Hold governments accountable to the public to meet community and public requirements over those of corporations and large business organizations.
- In general I think that community groups may be able to:1. Help establish coastal development standards2. Partner with the provincial government and municipalities to establish planning strategies and land-use by-laws in coastal areas3. Increase awareness and knowledge about coastal landscapes, processes, and resourcesI think that the provincial government could focus on partnerships between community groups, municipalities, and itself to encourage and support community based help.
- We are currently beginning the process of writing a brand new Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw. This is likely to be the easiest opportunity for incorporating policies that promote responsible coastal development. Information that can guide us in developing appropriate policy would certainly be welcome.
- As a member of the surf community, responsible coastal development is important. Our community holds several coastal cleanups around access points to help reduce our impact. I think the government, and DNR, should establish permanent garbage and recycling centers at all provincial parks (lawrencetown) as well as coastal access parks. Year round.
- Sorry. Just sounds like more regulation of private property.
- Our organization work in collaboration with others around the coast. We take a comprehensive view with understanding of natural processes and the needs for human use. We have specific knowledge of our area of the Province so can contribute that to an open inventory and mapping system such as Open Green Map that allows public input to thematic maps.
- As a private individual I can simply opt not to purchase coastal property in sensitive areas and the government can help by informing the public of the potential personal financial loss that is at stake. Furthermore, as a member of a community I can participate in the stakeholder approval process for public infrastructure projects. The government needs to inform the public of the potential impacts of coastal development projects and make it understood that there are both direct and indirect effects to consider.
- The province could establish a commission to oversee and concentrate coastal development, such as the State of California created. The provincial oversight cannot be vested in any official or body which is associated or controlled by those aligned with the development, resort, real estate or industry generally. There must be provincial wide regulations, policies and plans to develop an effective conservation oriented stratagem for preservation of the coast.
- A problem associated with Land Use regulation in many parts of rural Nova Scotia is the lack of a political (Municipal) desire to implement controls. In many rural areas, where the rate of development is slow (including that along our rural coastline) and where landowners do not like to have their developmental opportunities limited, Municipal governments are reluctant to implement Land Use Planning and related development control. In order to stimulate Land Use regulatory implementation in some rural areas, the Province will need to provide a stimulus to offset the political reluctance at the Municipal level. An example of a stimulus approach was the

process of making funds available (by the Province) to support the development of Source Water Protection Plans.

- Contact the Association of NS Land Surveyors and Association of Canada Lands Surveyors in Ottawa as they should be able to assist with the above.
- Education is going to be a key component, as all Nova Scotians feel the coastal area is unlimited and they feel it is a cultural right
- 1. education as to why coastal management is necessary, what it involves, what the negative effects and consequences are if no attention is paid to managing coastal impact-Provincial responsibility 2. encourage, support and assist financially community initiatives that have a positive effect on coastal management and fit within the Dept's guidelines. 3. Publicize community initiatives and successes-celebrate good local news stories relative to the coastal strategy in order to get public 'buy-in' and create a culture of respect and care of our coastline
- The Provincial Gov although willing to help don't hold a candle at the Federal level.....DFO is stand fast in their regulations and is certainly damaging the direction for Coastal Community development, showing little respect for Historic involvement and culture to families with Generations of participants while other groups receive it all
- Timely follow through on establishing actual standards and legislation - NS needs a coastal act.
- Keep the lines of communication open and listen to each other
- Provincial and municipal policy and planning relating to the coastal zone should emphasize opportunities for effective stakeholder and public engagement (as should land use planning process for all areas of the province).
- I question how information is being distributed at present to the public, when our own government is not forthcoming with scientific data to back up their positions. Again, where's the beef? Changes and good behaviour won't just happen if the government sends out info...the government has to enforce the rules and regulations and monitor and enforce those regulations.. Without enforcement and fines and somebody minding the pot, companies and individuals will continually break the rules.. Rules are meant to keep people on the level and keep an even playing field, but they are meaningless if there's no followup and enforcement.
- community advisory committee to each municipal planning process
- Support the Coastal Coalition and conservation organizations such as the NS Nature Trust and the Nature Conservancy.
- In our area the Kingsburg Coastal Conservancy, the Mahone Islands Conservation Association have done important work in protecting coastal lands. Often the Province has been helpful. Sometimes, though, the Province's land purchase rules have worked against acquisition for protection. For example, the KCC applied to the Province for financial assistance in purchasing West Ironbound island but was told that the purchase was ineligible because the island had once been cleared for farming and therefore was not pristine wild land. Yet the island is home to one of the very few heronries along our coast. Bluenose Coastal Action group carries out various valuable projects. The Province could be more generous with financial assistance and with moral support. Organizations such as BCAP can often carry out activities that contribute to provincial goals at a fraction of the costs that are involved when programs are carried out by government.

**[Working Waterfronts] Do the goal and objectives establish the right overall direction for this issue?
[WW5]**

- Yes

- yes
- with this item, being more commercial, i would have expected to see a closer tie back to the jobshere program.the words manage, maintain , and enhance access aren't supportive enough to promote jobshere .
- I pleased to see that the concepts concepts for working waterfronts include the recreational access that are sorely needed by cruising sailors. This will allow crusers better access to needed shoreside facilities, and provide traffic for local businesses.
- Given the recent announcement that Halifax Shipyards will be busy building navy ships for the next few decades, this should be added to the mix.
- The goal of making working waterfronts safe and efficient by increasing community's ability to use and manage their waterfronts makes sense, but, the cost of doing so, is not addressed. Is this a joint responsibility of the province and municipalities ? Perhaps this will be addressed at a later stage of the process. Once again, fishermen should be involved in this process.
- Yes
- Yes, but, once again, I do worry about the tendency of governments to align themselves with business interests.
- The strongest economic benefit of Ocean front are ecological systems which impact, directly and indirectly,the culture and lifestyle, including the attraction and maintence of a population base which seeks a closer contact with nature. NS is slowly destroying this in pursuit of a narrowly focussed waterfront development.
- There was a lot of concern in the office that this section fails to recognize that many working waterfronts are not in isolation. That is to say, industrial and commercial uses are very often sharing space with heritage, cultural, and tourist functions. Developing effective working waterfronts requires that the soft functions be considered along with working functions so as to reduce conflicts that could harm both waterfront functions.
- The objectives & actions are economically-drive, and those seen fine, however there is no clear reference to culture or environment (I would think that working waterfronts have some elements of these). I'm starting to wonder who's writing this document. Moreover, due to the built-up nature of working waterfronts, increased storm intensity and frequency due to climate change will probably cause greater threat to infrastructure in these areas, especially where natural conditions have been altered by sea walls and other such barriers. Although there's another section on storm events, I think this is at least worth mentioning here.
- Working Waterfronts: Good that it emphasizes mix of industry and community use as they can go quite well together, particularly in urban areas.
- Economic stimulus initiatives like Nova Scotia's jobsHere campaign mean that working waterfront management will be more important than ever in the years to come. The goals and objectives in this section are good but again fall short of the mark. Yes it is important that they are efficient and support a mix of uses but there are also the issues of capacity and proximity that need to be addressed. Working waterfronts really are a gateway between the province and the rest of the global economy; mismanagement can result in lost economic opportunity and environmental degradation, the latter of which is not even considered here.
- Working waterfronts need to be located within urban areas. Not scattered helter skelter.
- Yes. Anything that increases a community's to use a working waterfront is important.
- Not sure what exactly the term working waterfront means exacalty (new to me) but presmably it's a waterfront used for mainly economic purposes. I do not want private property, and rights and intersts held by private land owners, currently, or those held for generations, and in some

cases, since before Confederation, be dealt with haphazardly, or complacently and even considered secondary to economic ones. Property rights are primary, not secondary. This includes those of First Nation People.

- Not strong enough, we have a good knowledge of what is needed but we continue to fail to act. Its more than the direct wharfs and such all transportation and links to the the coast need attention
- 1. need to be careful to NOT overload communities with responsibilities for small local harbours. Neded to recognize importance to the healthof communities with monetary incentives and programs which would provide monies for maintenance and upkeep locally.
- I think we are missing something here about pollution. to me, there is a strong association between working waterfronts and potential for industrial/commercial pollution. there should be an objective relating to minimizing industrial & commercial pollution in this context.
- yes
- You need to let the public know with signage which wharves are public or private. Some signs are misleading.
- I think so
- They do not adequately recognize the need to mediate between conflicting uses of the waterfront.

[Working Waterfronts] What actions do you think will be the most effective for achieving the goals and objectives? What actions do you think are the most important? [WW6]

- THE WORKING WATERFRONTS SHOULD BE STATE OF THE ART FACILITIES AND FISH PROCESSING FACTORIES WHICH OUR TOURISTS CAN VISIT AND TOUR - TOURIST ATTRACTION AS WELL AS FUNCTIONAL PLANTS.
- I feel that there should be an action that addresses the potential impacts of the nascent aquaculture industry may have on the coastal environment.
- aligns with objectives stated
- Provide acess, facilities,, signage and published tourism information as to what and where these facilities exist.
- Protecting the access of traditional fishermen to their community wharves, is important.
- It is most important that the government assures that working waterfronts are in fact SAFE for present and future use.
- As previously.
- Ecological Systainability should be the first priority of any waterfront development, which will have the strongest longterm economic and lifestyle impact.
- I think the inclusion of adapting successful models from other locales in the region is a good idea, but you can go further than that. There are applicable models and examples of good coastal stewardship worldwide; just need to consider applicability to local conditions. On a side note, the subsection for the 'adapt successful models... action doesn't have anything at all to do with the action.
- Working Waterfronts: Good that it emphasizes mix of industry and community use as they can go quite well together, particularly in urban areas. We think putting the coastal environment first in emphasis sets the tone for a more balanced approach to coastal zone management. If we don't start with a sound understanding of the coastal forms and processes, a full inventory of

resources, and an appreciation for the dynamic quality of the coastal zone we have no chance of integrating sustainable uses into it.

- Identifying and understanding the strengths and challenges faced by each working waterfront is essential to begin capacity building and installing long-term sustainable management frameworks. Furthermore, community awareness efforts could educate local communities about the variety of economic opportunities available through working waterfronts. Unfortunately working waterfronts may increase the presence of harmful substances in the area whether it is a ship's cargo or the fuel that powers the ship itself. That being said, regulations with respect to what types of ships are allowed in harbor and how certain substances are handled should be reviewed and updated.
- A very strong set of provincial regulations and policies which all local governments must adhere to in making all zoning, planning and permitting decisions. An independent coastal commission to oversee the program for protection of coastal areas including appeals from local governmental decisions.
- For Annapolis County - the future of many of our Working Waterfronts is in question. What is abundantly clear is that the Municipal, Provincial and Federal governments, collectively, do not have the resources to maintain all of the Working Waterfronts in Nova Scotia. The development of a strategy respecting Working Waterfronts will require some difficult political decisions, e.g. which Working Waterfronts will get support and which will be left slowly slip away. We believe that the Working Waterfront strategy component needs to have a decision matrix incorporating current levels of economic activity, historic / cultural significance, the Public Access issue and available funding. The matrix would be used to be used to decide which Working Waterfronts will be supported by tax revenue and which will not. We also believe that Working Waterfront user fees and charges should be raised, in order to provide a better balance in the relationship between user-pay and government subsidy. Our position on current economic activity includes all forms of activity associated with Working Waterfronts, including industrial and commercial uses, recreational uses, tourism, etc.
- An Intergovernmental Forum (including First Nation communities) with industry and academia expertise and involvement as part of the forum.
- The footprint and approach has to be more integrated with other stake holders for the project to be worth while. I just completed a month long coastal tour of Holland by bike and you can soon see how they have a more integrated approach to coastal development
- Celebrate local harbours by publicity in tourist information etc. Recognize the value towards sustaining small community lifestyle and livelihood.
- RE the above, I'd like to see some reference to existing regulations or new ones that will try to ensure that chemicals and other waste are well managed at working waterfronts.
- all the actions stated
- Again your goal sounds like a company's mission statement rather than a true goal.
- The bias here is toward industrial or business use. That type of use is very important, but broader community use has value both for the economy and for building the social life of communities. If waterfront management is dominated by industry/business social values will be jeopardized.

[Working Waterfronts] How can you or your organization / community help achieve the goals and objectives? What can the provincial government do to encourage and support your help? [WW7]

- ASK THE PUBLIC FOR DESIGNS AND LAYOUTS, ORGANIZE EVERYTHING ON PROVINCE LEVEL COMPETITION WITH TOP PRIZES OF \$100,000 AT LEAST FOR THE SELECTED DESIGNS.
- provide opportunities for people to get involved, like clean ups, job initiatives esp
- same as coastal development comments
- Support existing yacht clubs and sponsor access to local wharf associations that now control former Department of Fisheries facilities based on required access by recreational yachts
- The provincial government can begin by meeting with fishermen who are the main users of small community wharves.
- Mayday-Shelburne County would like to see sustainable options for the working waterfront. Open-pen fish farming is not sustainable.
- As previously.
- Stop penalizing small business and supporting the bigs at others' expense.
- Our organization work in collaboration with others around the coast. We take a comprehensive view with understanding of natural processes and the needs for human use. We have specific knowledge of our area of the Province so can contribute that to an open inventory and mapping system such as Open Green Map that allows public input to thematic maps.
- It is quite clear in the report; local communities should play a roll in managing and using these working waterfronts to their benefit. In this respect the government could offer one of two services: direct financing or business skills workshops. Direct financing could be in the form of low interest loans available to those with the skills and business acumen to successfully run a business. Similarly, the government could partially fund programs that give those with the skills to make a living off the coast the business skills needed to ask for a loan from the bank.
- Appoint a broad base of informed and concerned citizens to the coastal commission who have no political ties and no economic interest which is in any way related to coastal development.
- Come up with strategies where every stakeholder can buy in and see the benefits, show that you can see the bigger picture as well can get the small details right
- Give incentive programs for communities to tap into in order to maintain or upgrade local harbours.
- The province needs to encourage more public input. Case in point of public input being hindered by government was the shameful public information meeting that was picketed by local government officials. Hello, talk about shutting down public input into the process of hearing both sides of the story and getting all the facts.

**[Public Coastal Access] Do the goal and objectives establish the right overall direction for this issue?
[PCA 8]**

- Yes
- i read the state of NS's coast report. i have no idea what degree of access is required, where it is req'd, who requires it and why. at this stage it's wide open.
- Yes
- Reasonable goals and objectives.
- Yes....increasing public access while protecting property owners rights, is important, as is increasing public access to Crown Land.
- Yes
- Yes.
- Yes.

- I am a private owner of a small piece of waterfront and I have neighbours who have allowed access through their properties to the waterfront. The public, especially local people, destroyed the beaches, fouled the water, and damaged private property. Beaches become dangerous places, with broken bottles, buried excrement, and other garbage, such as 'firewood' filled with nails. This has caused conflict and poor community relations.
- As a province with so much coastline we often take for granted the importance of actually being able to access that coast. This issue is very important and the goal and objectives do indeed set a good direction.
- Again, the goal is too simplistic and does not reflect the preceding statement. There is short mention of 'cultural areas' in the preceding text, yet there is nothing in the objectives and actions that suggest any sort of focus on cultural areas. It was forgotten perhaps? I might as well say it here, if the overall objective is integrated coastal zone management then you cannot drop elements at whim. If so, then the plan does not wholly represent societal needs, wishes, and responsibilities. If you drop an important element, you need to say why. Moreover, Canada is party to international coastal directives (eg. Agenda 21, Oceans Act) that require ICZM - these responsibilities should be mentioned somewhere. I'll say this here too, public consultation seems to have begun after the 5 (now 7) priorities were decided by the provincial government. The public were only then questioned about these priorities. Coastal heritage interest were excluded from the priority list (aside from a mention of lighthouses & some wharves I think - hardly representative of all coastal heritage in Nova Scotia). Interestingly, the feedback report from the multi-stakeholder meeting stated 'Greater recognition of the significance of the coast to Nova Scotia's heritage and culture was included in many participants' coastal vision. They envisioned greater support and protection for the features that symbolize our past and present relationships with the coast such as wharves, harbours, lighthouses as well as significant cultural and heritage sites' This statement may under-emphasize the workshop attendee's appreciation for cultural heritage. For, as noted in the workshop report, when asked Why is Nova Scotia's coast important to your stakeholder group?, cultural heritage was listed as the third most important factor, following ecosystem health & services (top priority) and economic factors (second priority). Nine other factors followed, including education/scientific, recreational, natural aesthetics, health and well-being, social, spiritual, et cetera. So why is this value for heritage not reflected in the strategy now? Even with the 5 priority-focused prompting, the public have identified cultural heritage as important to them yet it remains all but ignored in the strategy. Who chose to delete this and why?
- Yes, in the sense that increasing access will decrease the number of those marginalised from this resource. No in the sense, that this policy fails to acknowledge the dangers of increasing access to the coast. As a lifeguard at Lawrencetown, I know first hand how dangerous our waters can be and how ignorant patrons can be. If the province increases coastal access they need to increase appropriate notifications, warning and hazard signs. For example; Minutes acquisition in Cow Bay, is a new coast access point, purchased by HRM. It has made one of the fastest and most dangerous surf breaks in Nova Scotia more easily accessible to novice surfers. There are no warnings, no caution signs.
- A notable goal but exactly how do you resolve liability and property damage issues? Again, dangerously vague.
- Public Coastal Access: Need to emphasize public access to variety of coastal experiences. Getting beyond use of Crown lands there needs to be a program for purchase of critical access points from private land owners.

- To start, 'public access to the coast' is less of a goal than it is a statement and although it is easy to assume it is meant to be increased public access, definitions and precision are important. Aside from that I believe the goal and objectives are indeed a step in the right direction. People need to make the coast a part of their life before they can become effective stewards of it. Similarly, the coast is what drives tourists to come to this province and as such they demand sufficient access. It is important to note however that increased public access should be balanced against the pressures of human impact.
- Public access should not be a free standing priority. There are areas which are too sensitive during all or part of the year. Public access should be limited to non-motorized access. We don't want vehicles churning up the coastline.
- The goal is clear - maintain existing accesses and establish new ones for a range of users.
- This is too unclear/uncertain as to what it meant, or implied by this broad term. As a private land owner in C.B., I am concerned by this matter and will wait to find out the details of what this is and what it means and what impacts it may have, as a private land owners with rights.
- No, other strategies need to happen that give the public close to the coast. My experience biking on the top of Hollands dyke system for instance brought me close to the country in a low impact way.
- 1. emphasis on public trails, protected sites and tourist sites is good and needs to be embellished. 2. ensure building regulations require significant distance from the actual coast to protect the area from erosion and stress 3. encourage more people and communities to visit coastal areas and take pride in their coastal heritage
- The objectives already limit public access to the coast by assuming a limited number of public access points. The coast should exist for all persons. Right to roam legislation should supersede property rights for a certain number of metres along the coast. The public should be able to walk around the province along the coastline.
- I think the principles here are good...
- yes
- More clarity and emphasis should be given to protecting and managing a full range of coastal lands for public access, use and enjoyment (e.g. access to the shoreline edge, back-up lands suitable for accommodating recreational activities and related facilities and services, and scenic and attractive natural areas valued for outdoor recreation and tourism), rather than focusing on minimal access points to to shoreline or water's edge as seems implicit in wording within the draft strategy. Alternative wording in the goal statement might be: Public access to the coastline and its associated natural landscapes and ecosystems, as needed to support outdoor recreation and nature tourism .
- YES
- This is a very important topic. The goal statement is fine. The objectives imply a lot of control, which may not be as important as clarifying the law and enforcing it.
- Yes.
- Yes. The coastline of Nova Scotia is a treasure to be enjoyed by both residents and visitors and public access should be maximized.

[Public Coastal Access] What actions do you think will be the most effective for achieving the goals and objectives? What actions do you think are the most important? [PCA 9]

- JUST LIKE THE CABOT TRAIL.

- I think the Remove barriers and create incentives for private landowners to allow public access and the Protect and enhance public access on Crown Lands actions are the most important.
- Again access to safe/functional facilities in more areas of the coastline so the public can see/utilize and thereby appreciate what the coast of the province has to offer as 'Canada's Ocean Playground'
- Removing barriers and creating incentives for private landowners to allow public access should be the most important action.
- Identifying public access points to the coastline is an important first step. In this way, sensitive areas, as identified by mapping
- These 4 actions seem to capture the key issues.
- The NS government should have a standing policy of buying up any coastal land that becomes available for sale, and never divesting any. Expropriation in situations where an owner's practice is actively causing harm, as understood in current science, MUST be in the bag of tricks.
- If access is going to be successful there is a need to consider how we are to protect waterfront and access points from vandalism and pollution.
- The most important actions are those two that enhance access on Crown and private lands.
- the actions reflect the objectives for the single goal, as stated. I think blocked access to the coast due to private ownership is a problem that require attention and there may be issues with coastal management approaches in the future if blocks of coastal areas are privately owned. The coastline should be public domain.
- Public Coastal Access: Yes, a Province wide inventory is necessary. There are actually quite a number of public access points but most are unidentified or not developed enough for parking or safe use. Good examples of public access points exist in Maine and along the Gaspé Peninsula coasts. Our lack of access, coastal overlooks, rest stops, toilet facilities, picnic tables is a serious detriment to our tourism industry. We think putting the coastal environment first in emphasis sets the tone for a more balanced approach to coastal zone management. If we don't start with a sound understanding of the coastal forms and processes, a full inventory of resources, and an appreciation for the dynamic quality of the coastal zone we have no chance of integrating sustainable uses into it.
- A map based on a province wide inventory of public access points and what they offer would be an extremely useful tool for helping find access points within proximity for individual needs. Although this does not increase the overall amount of public access points it does increase the amount of 'new to you' ones that were previously unknown. Efforts to increase access points over Crown property and private property will be equally important for the obvious reason that those are the only places new access points can be established.
- Acquire ownership and easements of coastal land. Provide some real estate tax relief for those owners who provide public access to areas which are the subject of significant public use.
- For Annapolis County - We believe that the Province, in conjunction with the Federal and Municipal Governments, needs a strategy to acquire and preserve Public Coastal Access. We believe that we need to map and classify existing Public Access, to identify where there are gaps (along the Coast) in Public Access opportunities, and to develop a strategy to acquire Public Access opportunities where gaps exist. The Public Access acquisition strategy needs to reflect other issues from the broader Coastal Management Strategy, including Sensitive Coastal Ecosystems and Habitats and Working Waterfronts. The recent decision by the Federal government to divest its interest in Lighthouses raises another thread to the already complex

fabric that is our Coastline. The Lighthouses and the properties upon which they are located are potential locations for Public Access to the Coastline and should be integrated into the Strategy.

- Legal meaning needs to be defined. Rights of property owners need to be defined and considered primary first.
- again a more integrated approach and specific projects must consider all stakeholders and contribute to the vision
- Stories and examples, pictures and action descriptions to let more people be aware of and pay attention to and respect for our coastal areas
- Passing right to roam legislation.
- It would be nice to see some timelines and goals - otherwise it'll be hard to stick to this one. How many new coastal access points? how many new preserved areas? how long till we get there?
- All of the actions stated, but they must be balanced with the need to respect sensitive environmental and cultural areas.
- Protection and enhancement of public access and use opportunities on Crown land in coastal areas is important as a general statement; however, it is essential that the strategy also give clear direction and targets to ensure that Crown lands are managed to these ends. In this regard, there is a need for clear guidelines for the establishment of parks, protected areas and trails to provide for effective access, use and enjoyment of valued coastal landscapes and environments. Even more importantly however, in light of the extensive private ownership of the province's coastline, is the action statement that calls for the removal of barriers to public access and the creation of incentives for private landowners to allow public access. In this latter regard, the strategy should be more explicit in suggesting actual mechanisms (e.g. tax incentives) that should be adopted or at least explored.
- Clearly mark and establish more trails/walkways to the shore and more places to launch your boat.
- WE NEED A COASTAL MANAGEMENT ACT WITH REGULATIONS THAT WILL GUIDE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS AND THEY CAN BE HELD TO ACCOUNT BY CITIZENS
- Education and dealing with private landowners is most important.
- In addition to inventory, DNR or DoT should post easily read signs guiding visitors to public access points. Provincial maps and tourist literature should identify access points. Wherever possible the Province should buy coastal properties in order to create new access points.
- Identifying where public access already exists is a good first step. Again, the draft fails to provide time-lines or concrete actions which the government could take immediately, such as a moratorium on sales of abandoned highways, or promotion of coastal crown land protection within the 12% strategy. Neither of these require additional funding.

[Public Coastal Access] How can you or your organization / community help achieve the goals and objectives? What can the provincial government do to encourage and support your help? [PCA 10]

- this item could, depending on the action plan, be the most sensitive for property owners. being a property owner with waterfrontage and knowing how other property owners can react to changes to by-laws this will be an initiative that will attract attention. the issues will likely be many.
- As mentioned
- As previously.

- Community and local consultation is needed educate the public, provide garbage and waste disposal, and enforce pollution restrictions, as well as appropriate traffic control. Some areas will benefit from restricted access.
- As we develop our new land use policies it is likely that we will likely explore ways in which to create incentives for private land owners or developers to provide public access to the coast. Information on how to do this would be useful. However, I caution that while we believe that while we can assist in encouraging access through our policies, the ultimate responsibility for providing access should be maintained at the provincial level.
- I think the surf community has a lot to offer in achieving these goals. They can map out the areas where access is needed, appropriate signage, as well as proper safety tips. I also think if Nova Scotia markets surfing as part of their destination, they should label their surf breaks as beginner, intermediate, advance like most other surf destinations.
- Our organization work in collaboration with others around the coast. We take a comprehensive view with understanding of natural processes and the needs for human use. We have specific knowledge of our area of the Province so can contribute that to an open inventory and mapping system such as Open Green Map that allows public input to thematic maps.
- As a private coastal homeowner I could be persuaded to allow public access over my property with the appropriate incentive system. As a community it is possible to maintain Crown public access points by either physically volunteering or donating to a fund that pays for the servicing fees. Communities that wish to enhance local tourism may find this to be a lucrative investment.
- Local forums could publicize the availability of a provincial program to enhance opportunities for access.
- Working within our budgets, Annapolis County has been acquiring coastal and in-land water accesses for some time now. We have developed parks and worked with companies to permit access to waterways. We have developed programs that show where access is such as Canoe Annapolis. Better funding from the Province to purchase, develop and advertise public coastal access is needed.
- Consult the Assoc. of NS Land Surveyors and the Assoc. of Canada Lands Surveyors as well as lawyers with expertise in property rights and rights management in N.S. and Canada.
- All can contribute by making your actions more directed under a strong framework
- Encourage community groups to get involved in projects, clean up, species monitoring etc.
- Supporting the above legislation.
- Protect and enhance public access on Crown Lands
- Efforts to increase awareness and promote (either implicitly or explicitly) public access should be coordinated with the parallel understanding of need for an adequate land base to accommodate and support related facilities and services and for a corresponding management regime being in place to direct and support user activities, and to avoid or ameliorate environmental impacts and land use conflicts.
- Rework the existing grandfathering ocean access points along the coast with clear trail markers and signage designating it a public access point....
- **COMMUNITY ADVISORY PROCESS TO EACH MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT**
- Kingsburg Conservancy has been given access land; Province could provide grants to help other organizations purchase lands. At Hirtle's Beach the Riverport Board of Trade maintains boardwalk access, an initiative that could be assisted by the Province.

[Sea-level Rise and Storm Events] Do the goals and objectives establish the right overall direction for this issue? [SRSE 11]

- yes
- Generally, yes. Identifying areas most at risk very important.
- OK
- Coastal hazards are likely to be the major factor that should guide the coastal strategy. The draft points out that this is already a serious issue and that it will become worse. Accommodating for this risk should be built into the coastal development standards and municipal mechanisms.
- yes, it is important to prevent damage and protect the Nova Scotian economy by planning for the changes in sea-level and storms
- Yes
- This has to tie in to topic 1 [Coastal Development] within the context of coastal hazards. Storms a a critical issue in planning, limiting, and/or maintaining coastal infrastructure. These two issues need to be linked.
- The goal is fine, but there isn't anything in the objectives that treats existing difficulties, other than getting us some info. There needs to be some redress, some dealing with the fact that we already have far too much infrastructure at risk - homes, rail lines, power lines, highways, ...
- Everyone is developing individual and contradicting strategies in a frenzy to control this situation, often with little benefit and considerable harm to themselves and neighbouring areas. They are often victims of ill informed and self-serving 'experts' who convince them to take expensive action which is often contrary to their aspirations.
- Yes.
- I'm not seeing a lot of action in this one for existing infrastructure and heritage. In-situ heritage can rarely be moved (due to their fabric, depositional context and setting, and possible fragility - moreover you often don't know of a heritage site's presence until it pops out along the shoreline! e.g. pioneer cemeteries seem to be eroding out a fair bit these days) Remember that erosion has been happening for a long time; long-lost buildings, cemeteries and other such sites that were originally constructed a good distance from the shore (and more recent structures & roadways/trails as well) are on or at the shorelines now - so many heritage sites & other resources under threat are not necessarily what you'd expect in some cases. In other words, erosion is nothing new, what's changed is the increased rate of change & intensity - this is what we should be preparing for: deal with current threats to stuff that can't be moved and develop good policy for current & future investments. I'm only seeing the latter in this strategy.
- yes
- A study of history will show that silt has obscured sea access to many communities/towns/settlements/ports formerly on the sea. Do you intend to change history or just keep dredging the entire province?
- Sea-Level Rise and Storm Events: We agree that development should be restricted or controlled in high-risk areas. High energy coasts and storm events are a given. They only become hazards when development is placed in their path. Protecting natural features is somewhat of a issue as what makes them natural is that they do change because of coastal processes. Are we going to stop coastal drumlins from eroding, stop beach form evolution, keep cliff faces from collapsing? Again, it is not just the big storm events that create change. All coastal processes

need to be thought of. It is the slow, day to day change that often causes problems to development.

- People and property should be safe from coastal hazards and the objectives clearly state that new developments should be done in ways that minimize risk but I am concerned about the ways in which existing developments will be maintained. Sea walls and other stabilizing methods all disrupt the coastlines natural processes, processes that this report itself aims to accommodate. What, if any, low impact stabilization methods are available and to what degree are we willing to increase coastal erosion in order to protect marginal developments.
- Generally yes, but there is insufficient attention given to the need to absolutely prohibit construction and re-building within those areas of the coast and inland which are now prone to flooding or will be prone to flooding within the next 100 years
- The goal would have been better stated as To ensure people and property are safe from coastal hazards .
- No, not fully. But good start. Picture This - 4 generations in C.B., Canada juts became a country. Property in C.B. and N.S. was been Granted by Crown with Rights that have carried forward to today. In those days, people lived, worked and travelled on the water- all year round. Fast Forward to today - - property lines have moved inland, there is less property than there originally was, the old homes are still there, but closer to the shore line. The storms that are experienced now are new and much, much stronger than they used to be. Original old roads have disappeared into the water along shorelines (which used to be the evidence of property lines), ice no long forms on the lakes (they used to use horse and carriage to transport the Mail across the lakes to various communities), and houses and housing stock (new and old, including heritage homes) are seeing the wear and tear. The rip-rap and vegetation along the shore is not holding up and needs to be repaired or reinforced again (at a cost \$3200 again this year). Is this normal? Will the goals and objectives help solve these issues and problems for landowners? We want to keep the property for our next generation who may wish to live there or who may be able to afford to buy land and a house somewhere else, but there is always the old family property, or was. No, the goals and objectives need to address more specific impacts on and solutions for present and long standing property owners in N.S., not just for business and the economy. People and their Land, ARE the economy. And it's their business. That's, N.S.
- Not a new event simply more of it. We have failed to provide leadership in this area to require best management practices. We have just go at it with no engineering employed.
- No - need to emphasize more the concern re so many roads that will be cut off or impacted seriously by sea-level rise. Need to encourage people to take the forecasts more seriously. Need to meet with Real Estate Association and highlight the importance of Agents alerting clients re likelihood and consequences of sea -level rise as well as give better information and regulations re building too close to the coast, putting in rock walls etc.
- Prepare communities for can be broadly or narrowly interpreted. If the government interprets this broadly, it may be enough.
- It would be nice to see something here that recognizes the link between Nova Scotians' every day behaviours and sea level rise: that is, we are all responsible for global warming and should all be workign to reduce it. While I agree that the coastal act is not the place to provide explicit CO2 reduction targets, I do think it would be nice to make some links to other initiatives the province is involved with to cut green house gas emissions. Also, I do think there is a place in the coastal act to commit to public education about sea level rise as it relates to global warming. The more people care about the effects of global warming, the more likely they will be to take

action. Therefore, I think it is the responsibility of the government, through the coastal act, to make the public appreciate that if they care about the coast, they should take action in their personal and professional lives to reduce GHG emissions in NS and around the globe.

- yes
- YES
- These make sense.
- Not good enough. If NS is to cope with rising sea levels we must have more proactive coastal policies.
- The goals and objectives fail to differentiate between new coastal development and protection of existing infrastructure. Sea-level rise and storm events should be a major factor in establishing setbacks as outlined in Section 1 under Coastal Development.

[Sea-level Rise and Storm Events] What actions do you think will be the most effective for achieving the goals and objectives? What actions do you think are the most important? [SRSE 12]

- SURVEILLANCE 24/7 WITH THE HELP OF HELIUM FILLED (AIRSHIPS) HINDENBURG, MANY OF THEM, ANCHORED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE OCEAN. CAMERAS AND ELECTRONICS WILL PROVIDE ALL THE INFO NEEDED. THE HELIUM GAS CAN BE COMPRESSED OR EXPANDED BY OPERATING A SMALL PUMP TO RAISE OR LOWER THE AIRSHIP. SOLAR POWERED OF COURSE. PROTECTION OF COAST - WITH THE HELP OF LOW COST DRONES INSTEAD OF MASSIVE COSTLY HELICOPTERS. LOT OF SAVINGS HERE.
- Coastal Setbacks will be vital
- There is no direct reference to importance of natural flood controls. Saltwater marshes when unimpeded by culverts and barriers, provide areas where storm surge water can disperse and act as a reservoir to hold excess water. These areas can be drained and turned into farm lands, or degraded through agricultural runoff, industrial effluent or increased erosion through poor construction or forestry practices. The vegetation near beaches and brackish water shorelines provides protection against storm surges, preventing a beach from washing away or a shoreline from eroding. It is vital to recognize these areas as having high values for sea level rise and storm events. Although other actions may indirectly imply the value of reviewing this, the coastal strategy would be well served in to include another action item regarding the preservation of natural flood controls
- Using setback alone is insufficient. Height above average sea level and retention of riparian buffers are also important measures.
- What is missing, is a solid understanding of the physical dynamics of the various sections of our coasts. Coastal erosion is and will continue to be a major issue but nothing in the strategy recognizes how the coast works. Management boundaries for the coastal zone (which have not been articulated anywhere in this strategy, btw!!) must include, on the seaward side, 'coastal sediment cells' as appropriate management units.
- Educating the public and restricting development are two important actions.
- All the suggested actions are suitable and would be beneficial. Starting priority is vulnerability assessment. I would avoid 'setback requirements' terminology at this stage. Keep the discussion in terms of hazards and risk. Drawing a fixed 'line in the sand' is problematic particularly with rising sea levels and/or erosion.
- Well, one person can't take on what you haven't, and jot it down here. But some really frank looking and talking has to take place that apparently hasn't.

- These issues urgently require more credible information and knowledge to the public as well as local, provincial and federal governments, that informs concrete and consistent action and enforcement.
- The most immediate need is to develop an ever better understanding of vulnerability. It's very difficult to develop effective adaptation strategies for sea level rise when it's unclear what areas are vulnerable. Once this has been accomplished it will be important to develop land use controls that account for vulnerabilities, and to educate home owners and developers about why they should care about where they place their building.
- When you say 'best available knowledge' do you mean knowledge that is currently available or knowledge that you're planning to develop? or (I hope) both? Coastal management is an iterative process, there is increasingly better knowledge with effort, so best available knowledge would reflect this anticipation of new info & direction - ? On a related note, this strategy is for a decade, but what is the long term objective - for the next century or something like that?
- Again, the use of the precautionary principle.
- Sea-Level Rise and Storm Events: Actions seem reasonable. We think putting the coastal environment first in emphasis sets the tone for a more balanced approach to coastal zone management. If we don't start with a sound understanding of the coastal forms and processes, a full inventory of resources, and an appreciation for the dynamic quality of the coastal zone we have no chance of integrating sustainable uses into it.
- Loss of some existing developments is a forgone conclusion so effective action plans must work to minimize financial losses and get people back on their feet. In terms of new developments, mandatory building standards and local by-laws will move new developments away from marginal coastal areas. Furthermore, alerting potential homeowners to the physical and financial risks of purchasing or building too close to the coast will have a negative effect on the demand for such developments.
- There must be an absolute ban on all construction and re-building within those areas of the coast and inland which are now prone to flooding or will be prone to flooding within the next 100 years. The only areas to be considered for exemption should be those within already intensely developed urban areas.
- The Establish coastal development standards objective is a common theme throughout this strategy. However, caution is needed when employing a straight development standard (such as a setback requirement) to enable planning aimed at protecting homes, businesses and the environment. Arbitrary setbacks from water bodies could sterilize many lots from development, and still not achieve the intended objective. A minimum elevation above high water mark has some merit, but it may impact on the develop ability of existing lots where a railway right of way along a shore created the lot to begin with. The specifics of the coastline have to be taken into account, are the shores highly erodible or comprised of granite cliffs, is the land high or low lying; these are only some of the questions that need to be looked at when planning for coastal development, as opposed to a straight setback requirement. The Province should lead in the development of more scientific data about coastal lands and develop more accurate coastal mapping, share with the municipalities that data now available and assist with developing solutions and regulation prescription.
- Quickly establish the BMP's for all that they must use.
- Need to make people more aware-need to have Emergency preparedness re evacuating areas and people. Need to move some roads and put in some barriers.

- Assessing vulnerability, setting standards and establishing strategies and land-use by-laws, and educating the public
- Make sure the regulations are the same for landowners and industrial owners (i.e., sterilized rocks? are they necessary for maintaining a wharf breakwater when we allow tons of feces in our harbours from the finfish farms?-rules have to make sense and they have to be for everyone)
- WE NEED AN IMMEDIATE MORATORIUM ON COASTAL DEVELOPMENT TO PREVENT DEVELOPERS FROM BEATING THE PROCESS. THEN WE NEED LEGISLATION GUIDING MUNICIPAL PLANS WITH PENALTIES. THEN WE NEED COASTAL PLANS FOR EACH MUNICIPALITY WITH NO RE-ZONING OPPORTUNITIES.
- Again, development standards are crucial and the basis of any future development. Assessment and education are both importantI would like to see a bit emphasis on planning that fully acknowledges natural processes and the fact that intermediate mitigation efforts will almost inevitably waste money and resources and eventually fail anyway.It seems to me that insurance companies are well placed to contribute to planning.
- We need a Coastal Change Corps - a formal organization supported at least in significant part by government - that would be charged with educating the public and preparing local organizations for coastal protection projects. The actions listed in the strategy are all important.
- For existing infrastructure, identification of vulnerable communities, roads, dykes etc. should be a first priority. As in the previous segments, there is a lack of time-lines within the draft.

[Sea-level Rise and Storm Events] How can you or your organization / community help achieve the goals and objectives? What can the provincial government do to encourage and support your help? [SRSE 13]

- Previously noted.
- We are a community dependent on the traditional lobster fishery and Irish moss harvest. We can help promote small-scale, environmentally friendly development. Our views reflect the findings of the Coastal Strategy phone survey in which 86.9% of respondents were concerned about coastal ecosystems.
- As previously.
- Communities require credible and unbiased information, which is supported by consistent policies and regulations.
- Again, as we develop our new land use policies there is a lot of opportunity for us to account for sea-level rise and storm events. Any support in developing this policy would be welcome.
- Our organization work in collaboration with others around the coast. We take a comprehensive view with understanding of natural processes and the needs for human use. We have specific knowledge of our area of the Province so can contribute that to an open inventory and mapping system such as Open Green Map that allows public input to thematic maps.
- The most a community can do is hope to mitigate the effects of coastal hazards. This may include active participation in the development of emergency management planning for sever weather events or just being prepared for such events on an individual level. The government could help in this respect by providing copies of these plans to the public or holding workshops that educate individuals on what they can do to help in the aftermath of such events.
- Annapolis County participates in a regional emergency management organization. As to land use regulation, a problem associated with Land Use regulation in many parts of rural Nova Scotia is

the lack of a political (Municipal) desire to implement controls. In many rural areas, where the rate of development is slow (including that along our rural coastline) and where landowners do not like to have their developmental opportunities limited, Municipal governments are reluctant to implement Land Use Planning and related development control. In order to stimulate Land Use regulatory implementation in some rural areas, the Province will need to provide a stimulus to offset the political reluctance at the Municipal level. An example of a stimulus approach was the process of making funds available (by the Province) to support the development of Source Water Protection Plans

- Establish quickly BMP's folks must do and sketch out those areas needing immediate intervention by public projects
- Listen to the people along the coastal areas - they understand the impact and are far more alarmed than the Government people sitting behind a desk in Halifax
- COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMUNITIES
- Development plans should be required to include long-term hazard analysis, to be included in public consultations.
- Local organizations such as Lions, B of Ts, conservation groups, local Red Cross, Search and Rescue should be encouraged to work together and with municipal officials to develop local coastal strategies.

[Coastal Ecosystems and Habitats] Do the goals and objectives establish the right overall direction for this issue? [CEH 14]

- yes
- Sustain natural coastal landscapes and processes, and prevent biodiversity loss is an objective that conflicts with a previously stated goal of Coastal development that accommodates natural coastal processes. Does one need to prevent all biodiversity loss to accommodate natural coastal processes? Developing an area will always have an impact, one can only attempt to limit the impact at the site of disturbance. However, if an area is to be disturbed then perhaps another area of larger size should be protected? In other provinces, when a wetland will be altered by development, the developer is responsible to either protect or create more wetland than was altered. In Alberta, for every 1 ha of wetland altered, 3 ha of wetland must be protected, improved or created providing a net-gain in habitat. Such a strategy could provide a guarantee that development can continue while biodiversity will be protected. As a developer would likely hire a consultant (in the prairie provinces Ducks Unlimited is often hired by a developer for net gain wetland compensation) it would become possible to target resources to actively pursue the objective of Focus restoration efforts on priority coastal area and the actions of Protect more coastal land in Nova Scotia and Coordinate and strengthen restoration programs. This would require new legislation, and opposition from those with vested interest in development, but is a sound, concrete and easily understandable way to protect Nova Scotia shorelines.
- Monitoring of sensitive habitats is very important. Planning for land use management should be based on this.
- OK
- Yes.
- Coastal ecosystems and habitats must be the foundation of this strategy, much more than currently described. This, combined with a solid understanding of the physical dynamics of the

coast, must be the starting point for all other decisions. This is the opportunity for the province to get this right (where few others have, beyond talking about it).

- The goal of preserving coastal ecosystems must be achieved before the promotion of an industry, such as industrial open-pen aquaculture, that targets so much of our unprotected coastline. This is particularly important in a community like Jordan Bay that depends on the fishing industry to support its local economy.
- Yes, as long as what is written translates to the right actions.
- Yes
- Partially. There isn't a clear statement of priorities, and that will make it essentially impossible for anyone to guarantee or understand what will be conserved. Do you protect a sensitive habitat, or permit aquaculture at a specific site? Does conservation trump a job or two? Votes? What?
- Coastal integrity will not be attained without a all encompassing effort that impacts all coastal areas and inland water management. What happens in any one part of the coast will impact much of the rest of the coast: What happens to water and waterways inland will impact coastal water areas. Identifying areas for preservation will not have the same impact as more general policies for all the coast, Protecting the coast without considering inland waterways will simply ignore many of the problems, and only slow inevitable unsustainable effects.
- Yes.
- The issue description oddly includes mention of cultural and heritage sites here, then nothing further in the objectives & actions. It seems that culture & heritage is mentioned here and there (peppered) in the strategy, however without any evident effort to address this issue - of all things to be lost with sea level rise & climate change, coastal heritage is one of the most obvious.
- No I think a larger emphasis on Ecological Management needs to be made. The purity of our coast is an important asset
- Again, goals are not clear except that of wishing to somehow exercise control over the coastline. First, take a look at one of the current programs, such as saving the piping plover; then determine if it has been a success and either continue it in all, part or phase it out and apply the analysis to other problems.
- Coastal Ecosystems and Habitats: Goal is reasonable. Objectives appropriate.
- As it has repeatedly been made clear, the purpose of this report is to try and find a balance between healthy coastal ecosystems and economic development and in this case conservation addresses both of these issues. Protecting existing biodiversity and restoring damaged coastal areas to healthy levels is an opportunity to make the coast a more enjoyable experience for residents and tourists alike.
- The fatal flaw is the goals and objectives fail to take into account that all coastal areas are inherently sensitive and all coastal areas are worthy of protection from the human footprint. Only the degree of protection should vary, with less prohibition of development within urban areas and very strict prohibition of development outside urban areas.
- Yes
- Establish land management zones
- No, not strong enough. We already know where we are just not brave enough to act
- We tend to know what is happening but lack information and research as to what to do about it on an individual, community, municipal level. Give us solid, proven ideas as to what we can and should be doing.

- I do agree this is a very important area
- yes
- Sensitive ecosystems are not the only natural coastal elements that should be conserved, or protected. Other coastal areas, such as islands, scenic headlands and coastal uplands, may not be particularly sensitive but also merit consideration for conservation not only as representative coastal landscapes and ecosystems but also as highly-valued coastal assets for outdoor recreation and nature tourism.
- Coastal ecosystems are already mapped-How are these maps currently being used and what are the details on the maps? 3% of a coastline as long as ours is pretty pathetic protection...what's the holdup?
- YES
- The words are very good. The challenge is to meet them.
- The goal is fine, it's the execution that is the problem in this province.
- The goals and objectives are on target in their focus on conservation or sensitive areas and on biodiversity

[Coastal Ecosystems and Habitats] What actions do you think will be the most effective for achieving the goals and objectives? What actions do you think are the most important? [CEH 15]

- FISH NURSERIES BY PRIVATE PARTIES WILL COMPLEMENT TO KEEP THE ECOLOGICAL BALANCE IN THE OCEAN.SPECIAL WEEDS AND CORAL REEFS MUST BE INSTALLED - NOT BY THE GOVERNMENT BUT BY THE PUBLIC AND THEN SOLD TO THE GOVERNMENT
- Coastal setbacks
- We need to consider storm water management on a watershed basis. This will cross municipal boundaries and will require provincial input. As well, inventorying of on-site septic systems (location, age, type) around or near water bodies would be very useful. Requiring contour ploughing of fields adjacent water-bodies and increased silt retention measures could prove helpful.
- From a recreational boating perspective, and in conjunction with Dept. Fisheries and Oceans for all recreational cruising boats to have holding tanks on board by 2012 there needs to be access to public pump out stations in a number of ports ASAP!
- Restoration efforts on priority coastal areas would be the strongest and most practical action in this strategy. This can also create jobs, identified as being so important in NS. See: <http://www.estuaries.org/reports/>
- All actions described are important, from mapping sensitive ecosystems to identifying areas for conservation. This cannot be achieved if the government is promoting industrial development without consulting with fishermen or communities (as is the case in Jordan Bay) prior to achieving these goals. Communities should be part of a consultation process that has clearly defined ways of protecting fish habitat and has established coastal protected areas, before proceeding with massive coastal development.
- Protection of Nova Scotia's tremendous coastal biodiversity is paramount. Preserving the ecological integrity of coastal habitats is vital to the health and prosperity of Nova Scotia. Actions needed: prohibit any activities that damage coastal habitats, make monitoring and research results public, ensure proper mitigation when habitats are threatened, pursue only sustainable development, create more parks/nature reserves - to name a few.

- Mapping and vulnerability assessment are most important first steps. The vulnerability assessment should be, effectively, the same task as in [Sea level rise.../ Coastal Development].
- Protecting, and not just conserving or restoring, has to be in the equation. And the Act has to prioritise goals. Politically, you can shuffle priorities to suit the shifting feelings of voters, I suppose, but if priorities are incorporated, at least we'll know, when you render regular reports, that you HAVE changed priorities, and we can judge your efforts according to the current flavour.
- Coastal policies must consider the coast and inland water systems as an integral whole, since isolated efforts will have cosmetic effects without long term sustainability. IT will be good for politicians and bad for the community.
- Coastal ecosystems provide many important services, including buffering from storm events. Any action that protects or improves coastal ecosystems is important.
- The actions reflect the objectives very well. I'm assuming that restoration projects will reflect how the natural world adapts to changing conditions, and will not attempt to hold the environment in some sort of unsustainable state. I'd also like to note that the GSC has done a lot of work in the NS coastal area. Although there's a lot left to understand, things are well on their way. Of all the issues in the strategy, this one seems to be the most focused. I'm guessing there has been good input from researchers and NGOs (?). Have all the issues been equally represented?
- More enforcement, (opportunity for more jobs HERE)
- Coastal Ecosystems and Habitats: Thematic mapping of the coastal area is essential to the planning approach. With current technology these maps can be made available to local governments and citizens for appropriate decision making. We think putting the coastal environment first in emphasis sets the tone for a more balanced approach to coastal zone management. If we don't start with a sound understanding of the coastal forms and processes, a full inventory of resources, and an appreciation for the dynamic quality of the coastal zone we have no chance of integrating sustainable uses into it.
- Designating more of the provinces coastline as protected areas is of paramount importance. I also agree that sensitive ecosystems must be identified and prioritized in terms of their vulnerability and biodiversity. It may not be possible to include all of these ecosystems in protected areas so those most at risk need to be placed in an ordinal ranking. Protecting sensitive areas outside of designated areas with strict regulations around their development and coordinating effective restoration programs are also important.
- Public acquisition of land, development rights and easements. Absolute prohibition against development and construction within coastal areas which are outside urban areas. The provincial program I recommended above including strong regulations and policies, and an independent non-political commission to administer the program.
- Caution is needed when employing a straight development standard (such as a setback requirement) to enable planning aimed at protecting homes, businesses and the environment. Arbitrary setbacks from water bodies could sterilize many lots from development, and still not achieve the intended objective. A minimum elevation above high water mark has some merit, but it may impact on the develop ability of existing lots where a railway right of way along a shore created the lot to begin with. The specifics of the coastline have to be taken into account, are the shores highly erodible or comprised of granite cliffs, is the land high or low lying; these are only some of the questions that need to be looked at when planning for coastal development, as opposed to a straight setback requirement. The Province should lead in the

development of more scientific data about coastal lands, share with the municipalities that data now available and assist with developing solutions and regulation prescription.

- Establish land management zones
- Moratorium comes to mind
- Put notices up for people visiting coastal areas. eg. this beach is home to----You can help us to protect this species by----. It would help maintain the coastal area if you----
- Once again, it would be nice to see more bite here. Do we have some fixed goals and timelines? You say only 3% of NS's coastline is protected. can we set a higher percentage as our next target for the next 10 years?
- All the stated goals and actions
- As Nova Scotia's coastline is predominantly in private ownership, the value of coastal lands continue to escalate and efforts by government to conserve private land costs typically require costly land acquisition, the Province should pursue opportunities to partner with land trusts (e.g. the Nova Scotia Nature Trust)in pursuing the protection of coastal ecosystems and habitats. Land trusts have the ability to protect lands through agreements with landowners called conservation easements (i.e. as and alternative to outright purchase) and can often attract multiple funding partners where acquisition is involved. Effective land use planning within the coastal zone, both at the provincial and municipal levels, is essential as a supporting framework within which successful ecosystem and habitat conservation can occur.
- Are our forests also protected by the same weakly enforced rules as the coastal rules and regulations? Action is the key word here.
- IDENTIFICATION OF SENSITIVE AREAS. LEGISLATION WITH STRICT RULES REGARDING DEVELOPMENT IN THESE AREAS.
- Standards and legal protection are important. But enforcement is key, and this is where the government has always fallen short. We already have lots of good laws and regulations in all areas of ecosystem care, but precious little follow-up on violations.The action on working with the federal government is probably wishful thinking at this point since DFO and EC both seem to be headed for oblivion. We're on our own.
- DNR, DOE, DoT personnel need to be better trained, more sensitive to coastal issues and more aware of coastal ecosystems. In this community provincial public servants have sometimes done serious harm to the castal ecosystem because they are not adequately trained. There is also a crying need for better enforcement.
- Mapping and identification are essential, however as soon as a sensitive ecosystem is identified concrete action must be set in motion to provide protection. The draft fails to recognize off-shore aquaculture as a threat to sensitive habitats. Coastal development should be prevented, not managed in any sensitive ecosystem.

[Coastal Ecosystems and Habitats] How can you or your organization / community help achieve the goals and objectives? What can the provincial government do to encourage and support your help? [CEH 16]

- develop usable spaces where the public can learn to appreciate thier coastline. Classrooms
- In the US many communities have pump-out boats the go right to the boats requiring pump out services. These are provided by the communities/service clubs and staffed seasonally by trained summer students.

- Give me an opportunity for hands-on coastal habitat restoration. This strategy and the people of NS need to see and be involved in tangible, short-term improvements to the most important components of our coast. You will then have broader support to tackle the tougher issues.
- Once again, our community group, Mayday-Shelburne County and other community groups from around the province, have asked the provincial government to stop issuing leases for industrial open-pen finish aquaculture. When this is done, communities, using the Coastal Strategy, can put safeguards in place to protect their traditional fisheries.
- Mayday-Shelburne County represents thousands of informed citizens who know that open-pen fish farming seriously threatens sensitive coastal ecosystems. Open-pen fish farming has had widely known (researched and published) devastating effects on ecosystems in Canada and beyond. Mayday Shelburne County wants the government to keep the promise made to protect natural resources for the health and prosperity of the province.
- As previously. Really, what other answer can I give?
- Coordination of mapping efforts would surely help both the provincial government and our land use planning.
- As a lifeguard at lawrencetown beach we see people violating law and regulation concerning protected habitats, littering, and things that DNR are responsible for enforcing, it is difficult to enforce or at least hold people accountable when there is only one officer of a given region. Allowing dnr parks or lifeguards to fine for smaller offenses, could help. this is done in other countries.
- You need to engage the community but stop closing access to all Nova Scotians. It is disturbing to me, at least, to see whole bays cut off from public use and placed into parks with only regulated access. I find this policy condescending and know it is deeply resented by ordinary; i.e. not rich, Nova Scotians.
- Our organization work in collaboration with others around the coast. We take a comprehensive view with understanding of natural processes and the needs for human use. We have specific knowledge of our area of the Province so can contribute that to an open inventory and mapping system such as Open Green Map that allows public input to thematic maps.
- Communities can help by advocating sensitive coastlines in the area and providing government with an idea of the importance of such areas. Community members can also give their time and/or money to support restoration efforts if such actions are necessary. The government can help in this respect by creating a process for applying to have areas designated as sensitive and funding, at least partially, restoration projects where they are needed.
- Same contacts as referenced earlier
- Nail down what needs passive or aggressive response
- Show them specific interest, commitment and offer incentives. So far it is mainly just talk and printed matter that we get with thoughts and ideas! Let's get on to it and engage people on the beaches!
- Work together
- Follow the regulations already in place.
- Support organizations whose primary focus is environmental protection.
- Local groups such as the Kingsburg Coastal Conservancy have tried to promote sensitive planning and ecologically sound decision making by individuals, businesses and governments, only to be ignored or dismissed.

**[Coastal Water Quality] Do the goals and objectives establish the right overall direction for this issue?
[CWQ 17]**

- Yes
- OK
- As mentioned in previous page
- Improved coastal water quality, in combination with coastal habitat restoration, should be the primary focus of this strategy and investments.
- The improvement of coastal water quality, by decreasing sources of pollution, must include a discussion of industrial scale aquaculture. The industry itself estimates that a 100 acre site, stocked with 1,000,000 fish (three sites of this size are proposed for our area) would generate 1,000,000 lbs. of food waste and fish feces every 18 months. This is unacceptable for an estuary like Jordan Bay, where currents flow inland. Aquaculture executives in N.B. have recently been charged by Environment Canada for alleged use of illegal pesticides. Some pesticides used by the aquaculture industry to treat sea lice are toxic to lobster and lobster larvae, and therefore have no place in lobster fishing areas.
- Yes. The federal and provincial government must assure coastal water quality - essential to the health and economic prosperity of Nova Scotia.
- Yes
- Given that aquaculture uniformly destroys ocean environments (please feel free to point to one, anywhere in the world, that doesn't), I can't take this goal seriously. Either you haven't done your homework, or you're doing the mealy-mouthed thing already. Both are bad news for this draft legislation.
- The actions do not reflect your analysis of the situation: while you recognize the effect of inland usage, your actions do not impact any of these concerns.
- They certainly seem reasonable.
- yes, I think so. What about the ocean acidification symptom of climate change? This is an issue of CO2 I believe, and will affect marine ecosystems, what's the plan for that?
- A worthy goal and a practical one if applied with balance.
- Coastal Water Quality: Goal is reasonable. Objectives appropriate.
- The quality of coastal waters is imperative to support the social and economic needs of Nova Scotians but the objectives in this section fail to address the need for water quality outside of human use areas. An obvious issue can be highlighted by the biomagnification of toxins in the food chain. Unless these human use areas are a closed ecosystem, which they are not, unsafe toxins will still travel through organisms and animals that are not bound to any single stretch of coastline. Furthermore, limiting efforts to areas of current human use does not address the temporal issue; what is not used now may be so in the future.
- No. There is insufficient consideration of the adverse effects of agricultural runoff, forest practices, stormwater discharged from urban development and the threats posed by aquaculture.
- I believe this is interconnected with all the 6 touchstones. Again we have a good idea where but are not prepared to act
- With so many straight drains running into the ocean how can you even ask this question? We the public have known of this problem and its consequences for ages but there are no rules, no regulations, no incentives, no emphasis on addressing the issues. First things first ! How can you think that we think you are even serious about this topic?

- I think we should have some objectives relating to water quality for the sake of the health of natural ecosystems, not just for swimming beaches and aquaculture. Shouldn't we strive to have a net-zero pollution effect on the waters that surround our province?
- yes
- Certain industries mentioned in your goals are part of the pollution problems we are facing in our waterways. When government decides to clean up and enforce our weak environmental laws then it will do a lot to clean our waterways. Who is responsible for sewage treatment overflow into our harbours? Who cleans up after the aquaculture industry fouls up the harbours? Who repairs the damage from runoff into the ocean from overcutting our forests?
- Yes, the goal is fine. The objectives seem a little narrow and anthropocentric. Perhaps another objective specifying healthy marine ecosystems would be in order.
- Inadequate. Good coastal water quality should be a priority all along the coast, not just where people swim or where marine harvesting takes place.
- Aquaculture is a source of degradation of water quality and has no place in the list of healthy ecosystems, recreation and fish harvesting.

[Coastal Water Quality] What actions do you think will be the most effective for achieving the goals and objectives? What actions do you think are the most important? [CWQ 18]

- I'd like to see an action that addresses pollution from overland runoff and upstream land uses.
- why is it only beaches. if the public is going to have more access to private waterfront then why aren't the objectives covering all waterfrontage where people have recreational uses.a lot of these actions already are in place. they just are not enforced.residents are breaking the law, the gov't knows it but does nothing.i suggest an action should be enforce the law. the rest of the actions made little if anything without enforcement.
- The actions proposed are sensible and important. Recognizing the 'key role municipalities play', consider a 'provincial-municipal voluntary partnership', modeled on the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act (which is a federal-state model, but can be adapted to the realities of current federal retreat on oceans management and the leadership role of the province).
- Coastal development standards MUST be in place before industrial development takes place. These standards must also reflect predicted cultural and economic impacts of industrial development. 62.8% of respondents in the Coastal Strategy phone survey felt that coastal ecosystems and habitat were at risk. This reflects the views of our community, who have seen the lack of regulatory enforcement by any level of government result in the pollution of Shelburne Harbour (Ecology Action Centre report, Nov. 2010) and heavy metal contamination in Port Mouton Bay (Trace Metal and Sediment Studies,www.friendsofportmoutonbay.ca)
- Actions: Government policies that foster healthy ecosystems for recreation/tourism, fish harvesting, and sustainable aquaculture (keeping in mind that open-pen fish farming is not sustainable). The government must make informed decisions using the best available data from science, aboriginal and community-based knowledge (decisions that are based on evidence and are open to review).
- CCME standards are a good starting point.This issue should be addressed within a broader 'vulnerability assessment' to consider the effects of development and climate change on coastal water quality.
- Introducing a little science here would be a good thing. Actually behaving as if science was not something to be selected or voted on would be practical and useful. And shocking.

- Get real: If you are going to acknowledge that inland usage affect salt and brackish waters, develop policies and practices that impact it through greater sustainability of inland water systems.
- Coastal Water Quality: We would like to see more specific actions to deal with aquaculture and shell fish harvest areas. Aquaculture has great potential to be a pollution source and shell fish areas seem to be under serious threat from land based pollution sources. We think putting the coastal environment first in emphasis sets the tone for a more balanced approach to coastal zone management. If we don't start with a sound understanding of the coastal forms and processes, a full inventory of resources, and an appreciation for the dynamic quality of the coastal zone we have no chance of integrating sustainable uses into it.
- Well defined water quality standards need to be set, an account of current water quality conditions needs to be made, the sources of pollution need to be identified, and ongoing monitoring efforts have to be carried out. Although the action set in this case does mention regulation and development standards, it does not touch on the issue of existing polluters and how to regulate the harmful effluents they release. In this respect market based incentive systems could play a twofold role by increasing aggregate water quality and providing a source of income for the government.
- The province must halt further aquaculture permits for any operation which might threaten native stocks. Fish farming needs to be done inland in locations in which there will be no runoff into any riparian or littoral waters. Public sewage systems need to be improved. Development along and near the coast needs to be prohibited outside urban areas. Every source of stormwater needs to address its stormwater onsite. There is far too much runoff in this province from single family homes, agriculture, mining and logging.
- Again we see the objective of establish coastal development standards . Caution is needed when employing a straight development standard (such as a setback requirement) to enable planning aimed at protecting homes, businesses and the environment. Arbitrary setbacks from water bodies could sterilize many lots from development, and still not achieve the intended objective. A minimum elevation above high water mark has some merit, but it may impact on the developability of existing lots where a railway right of way along a shore created the lot to begin with. The specifics of the coastline have to be taken into account, are the shores highly erodible or comprised of granite cliffs, is the land high or low lying; these are only some of the questions that need to be looked at when planning for coastal development, as opposed to a straight setback requirement. The Province should lead in the development of more scientific data about coastal lands, share with the municipalities that data now available and assist with developing solutions and regulation prescription. If one of the goals is to protect water quality by preventing the loss of sensitive lands - the MGA only permits regulations in relation to a development . The MGA does not permit protection from things called land activities and land consumption - just land use. The MGA authorities need to be expanded to achieve the goal of coastal water quality if land can not be protected unless it is in relation to a development or if a land use by-law can not prohibit development in a sensitive zone.
- May need to address and clarify, or obtain further information on: for example, Ground water versus surface water. What water bodies are being considered and where. Watersheds, where they are, impact and effects upon. Jurisdictional questions which may need to be considered.
- again moratorium in some cases and in others mitigation plans immediately.
- Get on with addressing the above for starters!! Regulate pollution by industry and farmers and follow through with fines etc, !

- I think there are some major problems here. You talk in the preamble about how land-based activities are some of the greatest contributors to coastal water pollution, but then the activities you suggest are rather vague. It would be nice to see some firm goals here related to sewage dumping, runoff from agriculture and cosmetic pesticide applications, toxic materials going down the toilets and drains, the role of hospitals and industry in water pollution, the role of pharmaceuticals in water pollution, and also the role of aquaculture in water pollution. I'd like to see how NS is going to address all these things, for all areas of the coast not just where people swim.
- establish standards province-wide, monitor quality, and enforce regulations
- Actions: Most effective action for achieving the goals and objectives would be a government who would follow their own rules and regulations and get industries, citizens and towns to also tow the line. Rules and regulations are in place for a reason.
- Standards, as always, are crucial. Monitoring and pollution reduction go together and are important. It's impossible to have a healthy coastal marine environment without also considering the watersheds. So I think there should be an action that ties the health of freshwater resources to the coastal environment.
- Stronger enforcement of existing policies. Financial assistance to home owners and businesses where it would be financial difficult to bring septic systems or other treatment facilities up to standard. Encourage innovation in waste water treatment - e.g. use of biological methods - so that treatments could occur in small and scattered communities.
- Establishing rigorous standards should be high priority, along with identification of sources of pollution. Water quality in rivers as they meet the coast must be included in monitoring strategies.

[Coastal Water Quality] How can you or your organization / community help achieve the goals and objectives? What can the provincial government do to encourage and support your help? [CWQ 19]

- Our community group wants to see the development of closed-containment recirculating technology for salmon aquaculture promoted on a larger scale by the N.S. government. We have asked the N.S. government to stop issuing leases for the industrial-sized open-pen salmon farms that create tons of pollution. We have provided the N.S. government with information from N.B. (Coastal CURA report, 2011) detailing the destruction of marine habitat by salmon farms typically stocking 200,000 to 300,000 fish - the N.S. government has approved open-pen salmon farms in St. Mary's Bay that are 5X this size.
- Mayday-Shelburne County wants assurance from the government that NO activities will be allowed that pose a threat to the coastal water quality. We know that certain activities have been allowed resulting in catastrophic damage to coastal water quality. We ask that these mistakes NOT be repeated (Nova Scotia cannot sustain or afford these mistakes).
- As previously.
- Action on this issue is largely beyond the purview of municipal efforts. However, if there is something we could do in our land use planning to support action on this issue it would be considered.
- Our organization work in collaboration with others around the coast. We take a comprehensive view with understanding of natural processes and the needs for human use. We have specific knowledge of our area of the Province so can contribute that to an open inventory and mapping system such as Open Green Map that allows public input to thematic maps.

- Community participation could play an invaluable role in the ongoing monitoring process. Participation could be active in that community members carry out the physical collection of samples or passive by simply providing access to the coast through their properties. The government could foster a program of this type by providing toolkits and information packages. Moreover, the program could qualify as recordable volunteer hours for students and adults.
- Education is a key component, but I think if every one can get in a win-win situation things will move along smoothly. We need a good strong vision of what this thing will look like
- This requires Provincial and Municipal commitment. The Municipalities need help (money, regulations, incentives and commitment) from the Province. So far - nothing!
- Report violations. Contribute to environmental assessments via public consultations.

[Governance] Do the goals and objectives establish the right overall direction for the issue? [G20]

- Yes
- If governance is about 'sharing authority and decision making', then this section needs to be much clearer about whether the province actually can and intends to 'share' authority, how, and with whom.
- The goal of government and citizens working together is important. It would help our community - there has never been any consultation with our fishermen or community regarding the industrial development proposed for Jordan Bay, even though the traditional lobster fishery supports our local economy.
- Yes - government and citizens working together would be ideal.
- Yes
- Reasonably close.
- In some ways this is the heart of the issue: the public and public interest groups keep running into brick walls by not being able to take independent action but with different levels of government passing the buck.
- Yes.
- This is good to include as an issue, no one knows who's responsible for what. There is also likely duplication of effort within and between the different levels of government, with far too little input from local communities who know their shores better than anyone, and the history there.
- No, they do not. The very statement that a coastal strategy should complement and support the major strategies of the government is dead wrong. Any strategy should support the people of Nova Scotia and their own industriousness. The NS government gets into the way of individual initiative much, if not most, of the time and is largely responsible for the poor economy of the province outside of the metro Halifax area. Government choices simply result in favoritism, unfortunate choices and fewer opportunities for the majority of Nova Scotians.
- Governance: Goal is reasonable. Finding ways to share meaningful information is important objective.
- The issue of governance as it relates to the execution of a final version of this draft strategy is extremely important to its overall success. As is the nature of coastlines, there is an inherent complexity as they fall under a number of definitions, jurisdictions, ownership and uses. It is imperative that the different levels of government and citizens have a framework for addressing issues and sharing information in a timely and effective manner, the goals and objectives in this section clearly agree with this.

- Yes, generally. The focus should be on the provincial commission to ensure all the goals and objectives are carried out by all levels of government and all private parties.
- Yes
- Whoever has the authority and jurisdiction over any and all lands, water, or management and control of the same or who could assist with such matters will determine governance. Who will be consulted, and why, will also form part of any governance process.
- No, need a stronger vision in order to draft effective governance policy
- No - we the public are well aware and appreciative of the many different departments and aspects involved in this issue. We are appreciative that Justin has done yeoman service in bridging government experts and department branches BUT after years of work on this topic all we see is more paperwork, request for more input and more talk. What we have repeatedly indicated at community gatherings and probably, in written feedback, is please get on with the decision making. Appoint the lead Dept. branch or person(s) and get on with actual leadership on this issue! Till the cows come home we can continue to talk - the issue is a critical one and we need real LEADERSHIP from the government, not a vote by consensus, nor another community go around of talks. We have spoken - Please deliver ----
- Governance I ask of all involved for years I have tried to address our situation with Atlantic fishers licence appeal board AFLAB ..is it formed operational a group to make decisions an arms length away from the situation
- The fourth objective is not strong enough. Improved cooperation sounds good but it sets no measurable targets nor does it require a specific degree of cooperation. At present, the level of government levels is almost non-existent, so almost anything would be an improvement.
- There seems to be a lot of good stuff here.
- yes
- Having a unified body committed to continued momentum in coastal management following adoption of the strategy is a positive proposal, and is potentially important. However, the effectiveness of such a body would be dependant on its assigned mandate and status/standing amongst provincial departments/agencies involved. The lead agency within this coordinating body is a critical consideration. Fisheries and Aquaculture has led the coastal strategy process, perhaps by default; however, given the narrowness of this department's mandate, it probably is not the best choice for provincial leadership in going forward with responsibility for strategy implementation. One option, might be to establish the lead body by Cabinet appointment, with the chairing role rotating amongst key departments annually or biennially. Even more importantly, the lead body should not only be comprised of provincial departmental representation but also include representation from the municipal level and from key organizations with interests in the coastal zone. As the draft coastal strategy clearly indicates, provincial agencies tend not to be inclined to look, let alone step, outside the box !
- YES EXCEPT THE IDEA OF WORKING IN COOPERATION WITH MUNICIPALITIES IS DREAMING A BIT. WE NEED LEGISLATION TO DIRECT THE DECISIONS IN MUNICIPAL COUNCILS WITH PENALTIES. THE COUNCILS ARE THE WEAK LINK IN THE PROCESS.
- All very fine words.
- This is the most important goal/objective. None of the other elements of the strategy will be realized unless governments get their acts together. Yes governments and citizens must work together, but governments have been the chief culprits in allowing the coast to deteriorate - turning a blind eye to inappropriate development, failing to enforce existing regulations, etc. So

it is government that must take the lead, making it very clear that the old ways will no longer be tolerated.

- Greater emphasis should be placed on integrated approaches within government departments and with municipal and other jurisdictions, as this has historically been a major barrier in addressing coastal management.

[Governance] What actions do you think will be the most effective for achieving the goals and objectives? What actions do you think are the most important? [G21]

- EVERYTHING TO BE PRIVATIZED. THE GOVERNMENT HAS LOTS OF OTHER JOBS TO DO.WHO IS GOING TO MAKE OUR BATTLE SHIPS - PRIVATE COMPANIES. DO THE SAME THING WITH ALL JOBS. YOU ONLY MONITOR, ENFORCE.
- Coastal Development Standards
- I cannot reiterate enough - all municipalities in the province should be undertaking planning - at least to the extent required to address the Provincial Statements of Interest (of which Coastal management should be one. After all, what percentage of our coastline falls within the purview of municipalities who chose not to plan? I suspect it's significant.
- how much will all of this cost. what are the economic benefits.tell the public what they will see in terms of financial costs and financial benefits.made the program results measureable. if they aren't then it will be a make work project only.
- The lead body for coastal management will be the most important action. However, I do not believe that the NS Dept. of Fisheries & Aquaculture carries enough weight within the provincial government to be taken seriously by the other, often more powerful agencies. PON has been a good exercise in bringing the various agencies together and should be congratulated on their efforts to date, but when the hard decisions have to be taken, they will not be calling the shots. A lead body for coastal management in NS must be situated at a level above the sectoral agencies, perhaps within the Cabinet structure. 'Facilitating' without 'authority' will fail again.
- Creating a lead body and establishing coastal development standards are two important actions that should be established BEFORE large scale industrial development.
- The knowledge of coastal residents and community groups is a strong resource that must be fully utilized for an effective Coastal Strategy.
- Sharing information and improving coordination should the be top priorities here.
- A lead body is a nice idea, but NS governments have a habit of ignoring or subsuming or just plain deleting such bodies. A better action would be to require by legislation that departments reference each other, cooperate, and adhere to the same rules.
- Nova Scotia Government represents coastal interests more legitimately than federal officials and must take strong action to attain coastal sustainability.
- The effectiveness of the actions will depend on the governance structure. If it is too one-sided, non-inclusive or otherwise not integrated; if the focus is entirely on economics (due to current state of things)and not other social and ethical values for health, nature and heritage than it will not be a long-term strategy and will not reflect the values of Nova Scotians today and in the future. Whatever the case may be, if a social value is intentionally neglected for one reason or another, this decision needs to be clearly stated - someone has to bear this responsibility, especially for future generations when they start wondering why things played out the way they did.

- Governance: Connecting a lead body for coastal management with an ongoing and consistent engagement of people and organizations is a key here. Perhaps an informed citizens advisory group could be a part of the lead body - a Coastal Commission of sorts. We think putting the coastal environment first in emphasis sets the tone for a more balanced approach to coastal zone management. If we don't start with a sound understanding of the coastal forms and processes, a full inventory of resources, and an appreciation for the dynamic quality of the coastal zone we have no chance of integrating sustainable uses into it.
- Clarifying the roles and responsibilities of governments and the creation of a lead body for coastal management will be essential to reducing issues such as bureaucratic redundancies, competing mandates, information gaps, and timely approval processes. In addition, the government needs to insure that there is a comprehensive body of knowledge in existence to inform the public of critical coastal issues and that this information is easily and readily accessible. Simply putting this information in the public domain will not be enough, actively engaging the public on a variety of levels whether it is community based outreach programs or televised media campaigns, the public needs to know they play an active and informed role in managing their provinces coastal zone.
- The provincial commission I previously alluded to.
- We believe that the Province is moving in the right direction in its willingness to create a lead agency for coastal management in Nova Scotia. With so many different agencies involved it can be very confusing, especially to the general public. It is important that their roles and responsibilities be defined, clarified and made to be easily understood. The access to information that is easy to find online and easily disseminated is key to this type of endeavour. A lead agency that undertakes the role of public education of developers and citizens is another step in the right direction.
- Act on what you know now and create a framework for moving forward with allowing our use and enjoyment of our coast
- Government leadership ie a specific phased in plan of commitments and action for the province.
- For us all Core enterprises being treated the sameeconomic viability is as important to us as it is to any other enterprise DFO regulations and interpretation must be addressed
- Communicating with each other and setting up one place to go in government that could coordinate all efforts.
- I do think that governance applies to all the other issues you have mentioned, because without good governance, none of the other objectives will be able to be met. therefore I agree with the EAC's proposal that the strategy be re-organized to have the overarching priority be stronger and more coordinated and more accountable governance, and then outline the other issues under this priority.
- All actions stated, and the province should take the principle responsibility, not leaving details up to individual municipalities
- The strategy unfortunately is segmented through its focus on seven issues. While these issues are not unreasonable in themselves, the coastal strategy would much more effectively be addressed under an umbrella of an overarching statement of goal(s) and objectives. Such a unified statement of intent and direction would give the lead body a much more coherent and clearer mandate going forward, and should be included in the final coastal strategy document.
- Get rid of the excessive number of departments it takes to make decisions regarding our coastline.
- LEGISLATION. LEGISLATION. LEGISLATION

- Coordination and standards and enforcement are most important. Use the GIS resources of the Lawrencetown school. Supporting local research and stewardship projects is important.
- This is an area that needs co-ordination, and co-ordination is one of the most difficult tasks within government. It is all very well to create a 'lead body', but unless that body has a clear mandate and the wholehearted support of the Premier, the line departments will ignore it and undermine its authority.
- Citizen participation is hampered by the lack of clarity in where responsibilities lie on coastal issues so a first priority must be to establish this lead body . As in previous sections, the draft fails to provide any time-lines for taking this essential first step.
- Nova Scotia needs a coastal strategy. The interdepartmental group working toward creating one seems to be heading in the right direction, but there is huge concern in the community that laws already existing which would improve conditions on the coast are not being enforced. An example of this is that sewage from illegal straight pipes still flows into waterways across the province. Is this another huge effort which will end up on the shelf? Time and tide are not waiting for us: big change is afoot. There seems to be a lack of awareness in government that governance is the central issue in coastal strategy, because each department can pass responsibility along to someone else. If no one takes responsibility, even if we have the best strategy in the world, nothing will change. We need government structure around coastal strategy which will enable someone to provide effective leadership and to answer for results.

[Governance] How can you or your organization / community help achieve the goals and objectives? What can the provincial government do to encourage and support your help? [G22]

- I have been following Nova Scotia's efforts over the decades on coastal management, including the efforts in the 1970s (ref NS CZM Director, 1976-1980), the 1990s (Coastal 2000) and this effort. I will need a much firmer signal and commitment from the Gov NS this time, to have me believe that we will progress beyond yet another strategy, with no implementation.
- Once again, our community is urging the government to put these strategies in place BEFORE embarking on large scale development that could change the health of a large part of coastline, as seen in other areas of the world, including B.C. and N.B., where sea lice outbreaks are requiring the salmon aquaculture industry to use stronger pesticides that are also lethal to lobster and lobster larvae. Due diligence is required !
- Mayday-Shelburne County is a rapidly growing community group of thousands who have the interest and knowledge needed to protect coastal environments and fulfill the goals of the Coastal Strategy. The government should follow through on their promise by listening and responding to the questions and concerns raised by this group.
- As previously. I guess I can add that you'll see more support and help if you actually act on the input you do receive - from citizens, and not just from businesses, eh?
- As previously mentioned, any information or support that can be provided to us as we develop our new land use policies would certainly be welcome.
- Our organization work in collaboration with others around the coast. We take a comprehensive view with understanding of natural processes and the needs for human use. We have specific knowledge of our area of the Province so can contribute that to an open inventory and mapping system such as Open Green Map that allows public input to thematic maps.
- As a member of a community, if I was so inclined I could assist with the development of a citizen's advisory council, similar to the one suggested in the suite of action options on this

particular issue. It's possible to take it a step further and not just act in a single direction by offering recommendation to government but also sending information the other way so that the local citizens have a balanced understanding of the issues that stand to affect them. In this vein the government would be helpful in providing access to information relating to the establishment of such councils and even offer incentives for doing so.

- At the present time, there is an abundance of laws, regulations, practices, etc. related to Public Access to inter-tidal waters. The abundance and complexity of these elements is daunting to most people. We need a 'low-cost' dispute resolution system, e.g. a Small Claims Court approach that would enable people to resolve access related disputes in a timely manner and at a minimal cost. The approach would likely be easier to implement than the development of new, specific law that would clarify the rights and privileges of landowners and those who want to gain access to the inter-tidal zone.
- There it is again, education and communication of a strong vision where everyone wins
- Wrong end of the stick ! We the public have asked you the Government to get on with 'leading the charge' . Obviously communities and individuals will help out-we have shown enough evidence of our commitment by providing endless amounts of feedback. This is like a 'sink hole' with no end in sight. Time to deliver, state your plans and show your commitment! Please!!
- The province has done every thing it can so you tell me
- Communication and feedback from each other
- Pay attention to and support organizations such as the Coastal Coalition. There's a lot of expertise and willing volunteerism in NS -- take advantage of it and give credit where it's due.
- Local organizations, conservation groups and environmental watchdog groups can give moral support, but the ball on this one is in government's court. If government leaders, particularly the Premier and the Minister of the Environment fail to give that support (and keep on giving it the highest priority) the coastal strategy will fail.

Please provide any additional comments below [Q 23]

- I do not see anything in this report giving private property owners the right, as they do now, to be able to continue to protect their private properties and homes by placing anchor rock along the coastline. I would like some assurance that private property owners will continue to have the right to protect their property as they do now by placing anchor rock.
- Looks great overall! I'm really impressed. I think that coastal setbacks and development standards will address many of the objectives identified in the strategy and should be a priority action once the final strategy is released
- there are advisory committees, local homeowners associations that will need to be kept abreast and be given a chance for input. i believe their desire to be engaged will increase as you move from strategy to action plans. ie from macro to micro.
- As federal regulations are going to require the use of holding tanks on recreational vessels as of 2012, the Provincial/ Municipal governments better get on side with pump-out facilities ASAP! Even in popular boating areas the availability of these are wowerfully inadequate. The few that do exist are marginal in the accessibility, non-functional, or non-existent!
- How can you have a 'coastal' strategy when you haven't defined what 'coastal' means in spatial terms? There is no indication that the 'coast' (or the variably used terms 'coastline', 'shoreline'; please pick one!) includes both land and sea components. This must be clarified as a matter of priority. Surely we've learned by now that the coastal zone includes both! The first green box

(pg. 2) states that the province intends to 'insure' the coast ...; surely you mean 'ensure' (unless you're taking out an insurance policy). How does this coastal strategy relate to all of the other 'strategies' that the province has been releasing lately? This document, and all the others, must give a clear and unambiguous 'big' policy picture. I've been trying to read all of the policies, but can't make all of the cross-connections among them and see the entire direction (nor should I have to). Start with a clear description of how this strategy contributes to jobs here. The emphasis re coasts and oceans in the lead up to the Rio+20 Earth Summit is all about the 'Green/Blue economy' and the valuation of ecosystem goods and services. This is the global trend and the Province of NS should be in step with the current thinking and direction in this regard. I read no reference at all to any new money. If this strategy is to be pursued with existing (limited) resources, say so, and adjust expectations accordingly. It is difficult to see how we will measure progress along the way from our current situation to the long-term goals and objectives articulated. The Strategy would be stronger and more easily supported, if 'orders of outcomes' were employed (i.e., 1st order - 'enabling conditions', such as government commitment, unambiguous goals [this strategy]; 2nd order - 'changed behaviours'; 3rd order - attainment of some program goals; and 4th order (or end outcomes) which are the 'desirable and dynamic balance between social and environmental conditions, sustained for sustainable ecosystem conditions and uses). Each order requires a target timeline too. Otherwise, we will have no, or at best anecdotal, evidence of progress and no sense of achievement along the way. Good job so far, but this strategy must become much more specific with the government commitments clearly stated.

- A coastal strategy MUST include safeguards for fishing communities that face industrial development, such as open-pen finfish aquaculture, before large scale industry promotion occurs. There cannot be a commitment to reduce pollution and improve water quality and ecosystem protection on the one hand, while promoting an industry that is not required to be responsible for its' own waste. No other food production industry is allowed to dump its waste into the ocean. FISH THE SEA AND FARM THE LAND.
- Please keep the promise. Work with us. Mayday-Shelburne County Jordan Bay, N.S.
- I think the document overall would be strengthened by framing it as a strategy for integrated coastal zone management. This would allow you to emphasize the interdependent relationships between coastal water circulation, sediment budgets, and coastal development. Similarly, I would keep the storms and sea level rise issue apart from the other issues. It is a driving force in the system - it is critical for us to understand how coastal development, communities, and the environment must respond and adapt to changing coastal climates. As such, the storms and sea level rise becomes an over-arching issue, not just one of a list of issues.
- Well, what you have presented here as a draft strategy is formulaic, which I guess serves when you're creating a ROUGH draft or basic framework. I'd like to see a strategy that steps outside the goal/objective/action template, and shows us just how you intend to, for example, engage with other governments, like the Federal Gov't. I guess this document is a bit TOO superficial, yet.
- There is a lot of concern in this area about the Province's divestment of interior dykeland infrastructure. Proper maintenance of dykes is important to protection from coastal hazards. Ultimately the health of the infrastructure interior to the dykes affects their health. As responsibility for the maintenance of interior drainage systems is divested to private land owners, we can expect to see negative effects on the dykes themselves.

- I think over all the call for actions in all priorities are weak. They don't really offer a solution to the problems and goals being addressed. This Strategy is ambitious, but not far fetched. Our coastal management needs to move towards this sort of framework but I think in order for that to occur there need to be harder lines drawn in the call for action sections.
- "Overall: The Draft Coastal Strategy reflects a positive and workable approach to our concerns for development of a viable and enforceable plan for our coastal zone. We are pleased with the approach and the manner in which the work is being conducted and feel that public comment has been reflected in its execution. We intend to be involved in this planning process as it continues to develop. While the document states that the Government of Nova Scotia is committed to taking a leadership role in developing a more streamlined and consistent approach to coastal management this statement is quite 'non-committal' when it comes to actually getting things done. Warm and fuzzy does not work in Nova Scotia. We would like to see a commitment to coastal zone management legislation with an office and authority under an accountable Minister. Definition: One of the first things we notice is that the Coastal zone of concern is not defined. It is more than the coastline, the length of which is highly variable depending on the measurement system, and the percentage of people living in or near it depends on it being defined as a geographic entity. A case could be made that everyone in Nova Scotia lives near the coast. Our question for the planners/geographers on this is what are the parameters - physical, cultural, economic - that create the area that is considered coastal Nova Scotia? Once that is decided, we know what it is that we are planning and regulating as it is impossible to do that with a coast line. With our deep bays and harbours and nearshore commercial activity our coastal zone must include both land and water areas. The Wider Context: This section of the document essentially puts out the message that the government is creating an ambitious coastal strategy because the coastline can and must contribute to sensible, sustainable economic development. The section does admit that the coastline continues to be a defining cultural force in Nova Scotia that is home to important cultural and heritage sites. Has the strategy of jobsHere become the prime driving force of the coastal strategy? In reading this section one is reminded of ship building, ocean container trade, energy production, fishing, aquaculture, natural gas production, national defence, and commercial fishing as coastal uses with a small mention of tourism and places to live, work and play. If the main reason for development of a coastal strategy is that the Government thinks of coast primarily as an economic engine then we think the approach is way off base. The coastal zone is first and foremost a special environmental entity. It is the most rapidly changing and evolving landscape in Nova Scotia with much of it in flux seen daily, seasonally, or in decades. It has the most varied habitats in the Province with harbours, river mouths, estuaries, marsh complexes, beaches, cliffs, and human development. The test is this: without us, the coastal zone would do just fine. The waters would be unpolluted, the estuaries would serve their nursery functions, the beaches would move about, the oceans would be plentiful. Storms would come and go, beaches would shift locations, cliffs would erode and all would go on evolving. It is when we enter with human constructions that careful planning is required both to maintain the health of the natural systems and protect our additions. We would like to see a statement that the government is creating an ambitious coastal strategy because the coastal zone must maintain its environmental integrity as we place sustainable economic development within it. That is a balanced and realistic Wider Context. The coastal strategy would then complement and support the major environmental and economic strategies of the government. (page 5, last paragraph) Our Guiding Principles: This section, like the previous is deficit on recognition

that the environment is the base of the planning activity. As in, we are already moving forward with a greater awareness of coastal issues and sustainable economic activity. Let us take just one issue, fisheries. The base of the fishing industry is not boats and harbours. The base of the fisheries industry is fish. If we do not protect fish habitat we will not have a fishery. The limitation on our shellfish industry is pollution of their mudflat habitat, not having more processing plants. Perhaps sustainability needs to recognize the relationship between 'essential' coastal ecosystems and 'healthy' economic development to get our priorities in order. Seven Key Issues: The issues identified seem to be comprehensive enough to cover the needs of a coastal management plan. They provide a useable list into which issues may be organized. Again, the order reflects the unrealistic bias of the approach. Recognizing the balance needed we would start with the reality of the environmental systems, move on to human use, and end with governance. As: Coastal ecosystems and habitats: They are there and in place. We need to start with them. Sea level rise and storm events: Coastal processes would probably be a better term as these are only two of the many processes that effect the coastal environment at any moment. Coastal water quality: This recognizes the need for a productive ecology to support life and leave a bounty for human use. Public coastal access: Recognizing the basic right of people to have access to the natural resource of our coast as a primary factor in coastal planning. Coastal development: Need to fit into above setting in a sustainable manner without destroying it. Working waterfronts: Need to fit into above setting in a sustainable manner without destroying it. Governance: As a way of making the natural and man-made environments work as a sustainable unit. What can the provincial government do to encourage and support your help? Keeping the approach open and transparent is a big step to encouragement. However, being heard is not necessarily being listened to. So, it is important that results of public input are reflected and reported back to those responding. Keeping groups involved with direct interaction with government staff is also important. In a Province as small as Nova Scotia, one on one contact is still important and it does seem to make a difference. The entire issue of coastal management needs to be moved to a more prominent level of consideration by the government with higher priority and more specific action plans so that this process does not get drawn out over years when things should be getting done. While the coast is dynamic and ever changing, it should not be moving faster than the governmental mechanisms designed to protect it."

- The province needs to adopt legislation which sets up the commission and establishes a moratorium on coastal development until a strong and effective provincial wide program is adopted and effective.
- Thank you for the opportunity.
- Our property has been in our family for 4 generations and we are seeing and feeling the impacts of significant change in climate and weather on the shoreline, the property and on the home (built in 1867 approx. per Municipal Heritage information). I am encouraged by this Coastal Mgmt Strategy and think the report is an excellent beginning. It just needs better structure and more recognition for property owner and property rights. The property in NS was granted in that way, and should be maintained that way. There are First Nation communities throughout the province that would certainly need to be involved and should be involved for various reasons as well. To have all levels of government working together, including First nation communities, with their various capacities, roles and responsibilities, would help clarify the processes and procedures that will help implement this, or any revised, strategy as well perhaps. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

- keep up the good work and be a little braver with your convictions and direction. The knowledge is out there ,share the BMP's with everyone.Work on a vision that all stakeholders can share.
- Enough said - we want and desparately await thoughtful, decisive leadership; a well planned time frame and action plan and concise commitment that you are ready to lead the charge - at last!
- RDG Faith Scatollon will no this situation well ...if anyone is interested just ask why all vessell based licences held by core are not shown the same Governance
- The feedback form seems a bit too directive. It does not ask if there are any additional objectives or goals. One of the most important goals would be to development a coastal act. This is not included in the strategy.
- I felt at a loss to provide any input in the bottom box on each page, about how can you or your organization helpRight now, that seems like a daunting challenge. I am definitely looking to the government here to create a strong legislative framework in which all citizens and corporations will have to operate, so that we are automatically compelled to do the things we need to do to keep the coast beautiful and healthy. I think that the tragedy of the commons applies very much to coastal ecosystems, and so the only way that tragedy can be averted is if the elected representatives in our legislature set up the rules so that nobody can (or will want to) pollute or otherwise damage this amazing public resource.
- Go ahead, as quickly as possible, and establish strategies and guidelines as stated
- Land use planning, directed by strong provincial leadership and implemented through municipally-based planning processes, probably is the singlemost important tool in support of a coordinated/integrated approach to coastal zone policy development, planning and management. Unfortunately, the coastal zone strategy process to date has not addressed land use planning effectively, and seemingly has made a concerted effort to avoid or minimize discussion of this important aspect. This oversight or omission should be rectified in the final strategy document.
- THE PAPER IS A GOOD POLICY DOCUMENT BUT WEAK ON TEETH FOR IMPLEMENTATION. DO IT RIGHT OR DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME. WE NEED A COASTAL LANDS MANAGEMENT ACT. YES ITS A LONG PROCESS BUT AT LEAST SOMETHING WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED AT THE END. THE REST IS JUST TALK AND INK. GET STARTED.
- Government will clearly have to commit to lots more human resources to make this work.It's important to get moving immediately. Seriously enforce the existing legislation regarding development and exploitation of resources in coastal areas. Get serious about denying development permits in areas potentially affected by current or future natural processes (including sealevel rise).
- To repeat previous comments, the draft provides no indication of when any of the proposed actions would take place and this is a serious omission.

