



Emergency Planning and Preparedness at the Community Level

North Harbour Meeting – March 22, 2006



Gordon Slade, Executive Director and
Maureen Murphy, Research Analyst

Background on One Ocean

In the fall of 2002, the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board (C-NLOPB) sponsored a series of meetings with provincial industry representatives from the fishing and petroleum sectors to address the issue of establishing an inter-industry organization to facilitate and enhance working relationships by promoting mutual understanding of industry operational activities.

What is ONE OCEAN?

These meetings resulted in the establishment of the ONE OCEAN model.

- One Ocean brings together the fishing and petroleum sectors in Newfoundland and Labrador. Industry Board representatives sit face-to-face to discuss operational activity issues, as well as government mandates and legislative frameworks.**

What is ONE OCEAN?

- **This medium to convene the fishing and oil and gas sectors never existed in the province until the inception of One Ocean. This model is unique in Canada and the world.**
- **One Ocean is comprised of an Industry Board, with an independent Chairman, and an independent Secretariat.**

MISSION STATEMENT

One Ocean shall be the medium for information exchange regarding industry operational activities between the fishing and petroleum industries in Newfoundland and Labrador, and as an informed entity, will initiate research and industry specific activities to meet industry challenges, as well as promote cooperation, transparency and information dissemination between these industry sectors.



Advantages of the One Ocean Model

One Ocean Is Not Directed or Driven by Government Mandates but by Mutual Recognition of Both Industries of the Need to Promote Understanding and Awareness of Each Sector's Operational Activities.

The One Ocean Model Enables a Proactive Approach to Potential Areas of Conflict Between These Two Sectors Before They Become Problematic.

One Ocean Activities



One Ocean Initiatives

As part of the oil spill preparedness and counter-measure initiative for Newfoundland and Labrador, One Ocean has partnered with the Canadian Coast Guard, and Environment Canada, to produce the Environmental Emergency Oil Spill Information Card for fishermen and other ocean users. The card was sent to over 5,000 fishers and marine users in November, 2004. It provides information on identifying a spill, what to do as a mitigative factor, and who to contact. The Card is available in French

ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCY OIL SPILL INFORMATION CARD

When reporting a spill you may be asked:

- Vessel Name and Call Sign
- Vessel Position
- Time of Position
- Type of Emergency (Oil slick, sheen, oily birds etc.)
- Time and date observed
- Location of initial spill (Latitude, Longitude)
- Number of oiled and unoled birds (whether dead or alive) in area and name of species if known
- Sightings of marine mammals in the area and name of species if known
- Size of slick(s)
- Any odours detected
- Name, call sign, description and position of any vessels in area

You may be called back for information on:

- What type of oil deposit if known and colour
- Any oil found on gear or vessel
- Names and contact information of anyone who may have observed the pollution incident

All environmental incidents must be reported immediately to the nearest Canadian Coast Guard Radio Station.

**one
ocean**

Canada

A joint initiative of Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada,
Canadian Coast Guard and One Ocean

24 HOUR EMERGENCY NUMBER

772-2083 or 1-800-563-9089

TRAINING OF FISHERPERSONS FOR OIL SPILL COUNTER-MEASURES IN THE NEWFOUNDLAND REGION

The collaborative initiative to provide comprehensive oil spill counter-measure training to fisherpersons in Newfoundland and Labrador has been undertaken by ONE OCEAN. Courses will take place in 15 or more communities over the next 2 1/2 years. Active partners in this initiative include the Marine Institute, Newfoundland Region of the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG), Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Environment Canada, the Fish, Food and Allied Workers (FFAW) Union, Eastern Canada Response Corporation (ECRC), and the Professional Fish Harvesters Certification Board,



COASTAL INTEGRATION

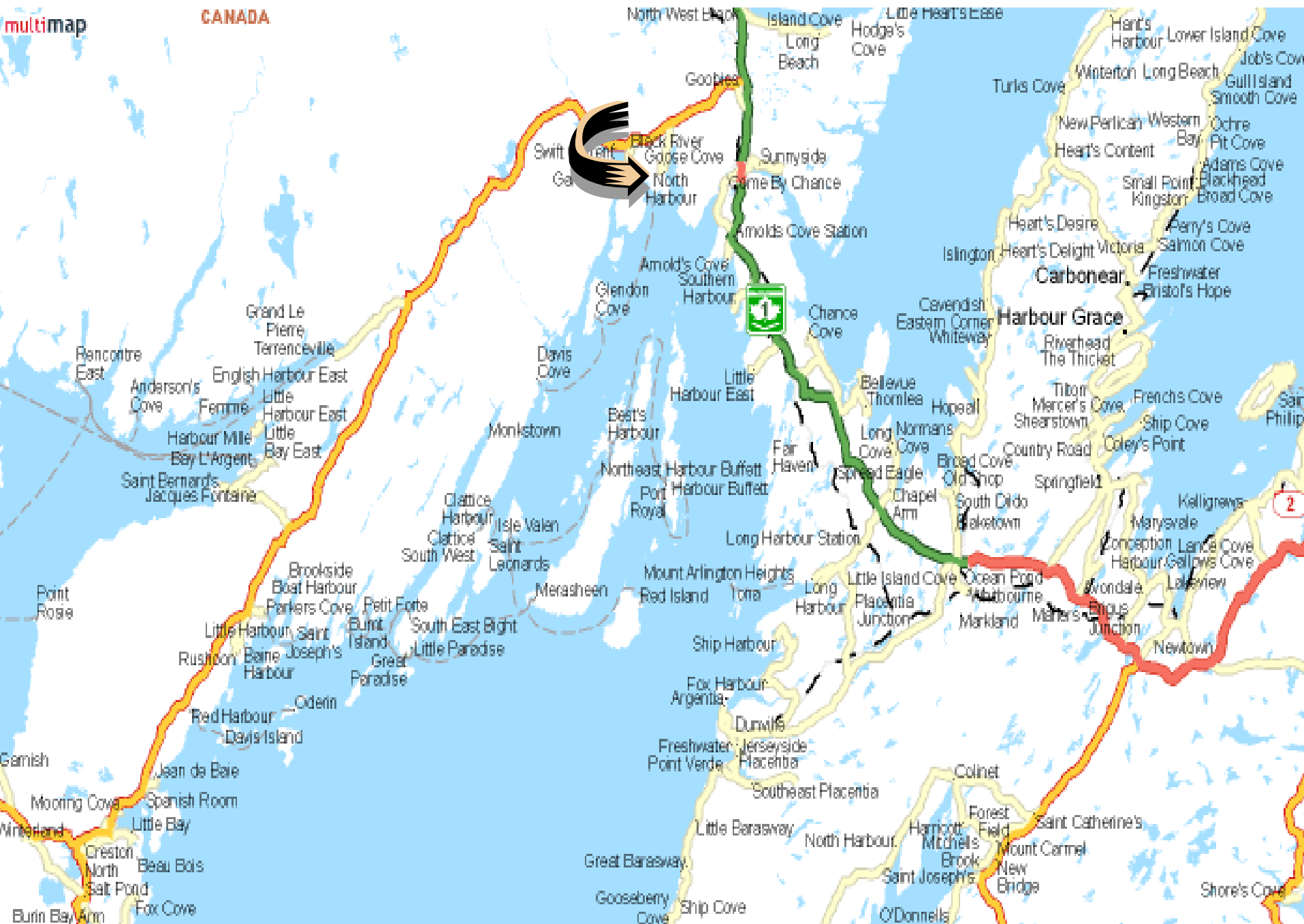
- **Although One Ocean is the liaison between the petroleum and fishing industries, it must be cognizant of all issues, activities and practices as well as legislative frameworks affiliated with ocean uses and users.**

COASTAL INTEGRATION

- Through the *Oceans Act*, DFO's Integrated Management framework has significant planning practices in the application of sustainable development, the precautionary approach, and stakeholder involvement.
- These practices are evident in the Placentia Bay IM plan.

Community Emergency Planning and Preparedness and





EMERGENCY COMMUNITY PLANNING

- **Is North Harbour prepared for an environmental emergency?**
- **One Ocean, in collaboration with the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management students at the Marine Institute, propose to conduct a pilot emergency plan for North Harbour.**
- **This is based on the need to prioritize proactive versus reactive practices at the community level.**

EMERGENCY COMMUNITY PLANING

We have developed a questionnaire for community residents that will assist in the development of an emergency plan. The questionnaire is designed to identify concerns such as:

Do you have accurate information about the risk of an environmental incident? Prevention of it, and countermeasures planning?

What role(s) would the community play in the event of an emergency?

Who else would be involved and what are their roles?

EMERGENCY COMMUNITY PLANING

What are the associated economic and environmental implications?

If it is an oil spill, do you have an appreciation of the types of wastes that will need to be dealt with and a waste management plan?

Are you aware of the Health and Safety issues that would have to be addressed?

From a community perspective, how can you ensure that you will be involved in a response effort?

WHO RESPONDS AND WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR OIL SPILLS?



Who Responds and Who is Responsible?

- **The Polluter Pays or Responsible Party**
 - If the vessel is a tanker larger than 150 GRT or a ship carrying oil as cargo and 400 GRT it would have an oil spill response contract agreement with ECRC.
 - ECRC is a Response Organization established under the CSA in 1993-5. ROs have response agreements with OHF as well as vessels. In Placentia Bay, they maintain equipment and trained personnel as part of the Primary Area of Response mandate which lists Come by Chance as a designated centre for PRA. The Cabot Strait is an Enhanced Response Area – geographic areas that hold increased risk of spill due to traffic. The polluter does not have to activate the agreement with ECRC

Who Responds and Who is Responsible?

- **The polluter or its representative will appoint an OSC, provide CCG with a plan of action, implement that plan of action and provide ongoing status reports**
- **Canadian Coast Guard**
 - **If the polluter does not accept liability, is unidentifiable (mystery spill), unable or unwilling to conduct response the CCG as Federal Monitoring Officer will take over as OSC with or without ECRC as a resource agency**
- **DFO would have an advisory role during a marine spill**

Who Responds and Who is Responsible?

- **Environment Canada is the lead agency for environmental matters relating to spills of oil into marine areas and land. EC may take the role as OSC.**
- **EC established a number of Regional Environmental Emergency Teams (REET) including mostly gov't members. REET works to identify sensitivity risk, review information, develop consensus on protection and response priorities and provide advice to the OSC**
- **Transport Canada as lead agency for emergencies relating to vessels could be the OSC.**

Who Responds and Who is Responsible?

- **The provincial department of Environment and Conservation would play a role as a resource agency during an oil spill operation for marine and land areas. Environment and Conservation is the lead agency for oil spill waste management.**
- **What is the role of your community?**



gordon.slade@mi.mun.ca

maureen.murphy@mi.mun.ca

Telephone: 709 778-0511 or 0519

one 
ocean