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Great Lakes Coastal Scan

Integrated Coastal Zone Management

Great Lakes Beaches and Coasts: 2010 to 2020
"Working Together To Improve Ontario's Beaches & Coasts"
Workshop – April 15, 2010
Black Creek Pioneer Village

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Context: Ontario Great Lakes Interests

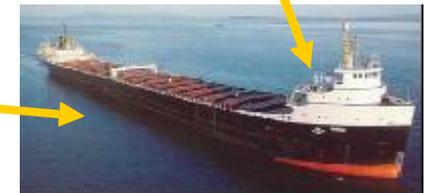
- ❑ 98% of Ontarians reside in the Great Lakes Basin.
- ❑ Ontarians derive considerable environmental, social, economic, cultural and spiritual benefits from the Great Lakes, its shorelines and land areas of the basin.
- ❑ More than 3,500 plant and animal species live in the Great Lakes Basin
- ❑ Shared Lakes = Shared Interest = Shared Management



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A “Dynamic” Opportunity: Collaborative Integration of Coastal Management Activities

- Many international, national, provincial, municipal and local level Great Lakes beneficial programs and positive activities with *potential opportunity* for improving effectiveness and efficiencies *through enhanced collaboration* to better account for the natural dynamics and human needs of the Great Lakes coastal environment



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Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) *A Possible Approach For The Great Lakes*

United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP, 1995/2008) generally defines ICZM as:

- ▣ a *continuous, proactive and adaptive (dynamic) process of the sustainable management and use of coastal zones* taking into account physical, social and economic conditions, the fragility of coastal ecosystems and landscapes and the constraints of legal, financial and administrative systems and institutions;
- ▣ not a substitute for existing planning/program initiatives, but *focuses on the links between them* to achieve more comprehensive goals

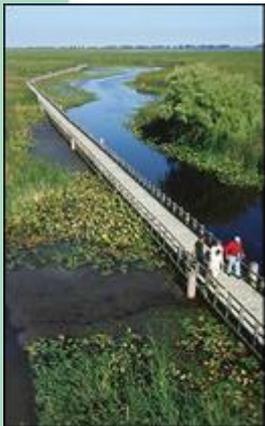


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Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) *A Possible Approach For The Great Lakes*

ICZM Objectives (UNEP 2008):

- ❑ facilitate, through the rational planning of activities, the sustainable development of coastal zones by ensuring that the environment and landscapes are taken into account in harmony with economic, social and cultural development;
- ❑ preserve coastal zones for the benefit of current and future generations;
- ❑ ensure the sustainable use of natural resources, particularly with regard to water use
- ❑ ensure the preservation of the integrity of coastal ecosystems, landscapes and geomorphology;
- ❑ prevent and/or reduce the effects of natural hazards and in particular of climate change, which can be induced by natural or man-made activities;
- ❑ achieve coherence between public and private initiatives and between all decisions by the public authorities, at the national, regional and local levels, which affect the use of the coastal zone



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ICZM – More Than Theoretical

- UNEP (2009) suggests that in 1993, there were about 59 countries working on some form of ICZM at the national and/or local level, while in 2000 the number of countries had increased to almost 100
- Many examples of “broad-scale coastal” focussed activities internationally and domestically that are similar to or based on ICZM
 - Canada’s Oceans Strategy/Oceans Act, 1997 – *integrated management, marine protected areas and marine environmental quality*
 - Nova Scotia Coastal Management Framework 2008 – *Sustainable balance between the development and protection of the coast and provide certainty for economic growth while protecting environmental and social qualities*
 - Ocean Policy Task Force (U.S., White House Council on Environmental Quality, 2009) – Interim Framework for Effective Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning – *Comprehensive, integrated approach helps to determine how the oceans, coasts and Great Lakes are used and protected now and in the future*
 - Australia's (2006) National Cooperative Approach To Integrated Coastal Zone Management – Framework and Implementation Plan
 - Recommendation 413/2002 European Commission of the European Parliament and Council *encourages all member states to practice ICZM = dynamic, multi-disciplinary and iterative process to promote sustainable management of coastal zones that seeks to balance economic development and use of the coastal region, protection and preservation of coastal areas, minimization of loss of human life and property, and public access to the coastal zone*

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Possible Ontario Building Blocks Toward Great Lakes ICZM



- ❑ Learn from and build upon existing programs, initiatives and workshops such as:
- ❑ Lakewide Management Plans & Committees and the Lake Huron Binational Partnership;
- ❑ Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation;
- ❑ Southern Georgian Bay Coastal Initiative;
- ❑ Blue Flag Program;
- ❑ Conservation Authorities Watershed and Shoreline Management Planning;
- ❑ Ontario Parks Program;
- ❑ Great Lakes Climate Change & Policy Workshop (2009) (e.g. collaboration is required across agencies, all levels of government, and the International border to develop Integrated Shoreline Management Plans
- ❑ Coastal Zone Management Under A Changing Climate in the Great Lakes (2006)
- ❑ IJC initiatives – nearshore findings, water level reference studies
- ❑ Natural Hazards and Natural Heritage Technical Guidelines (Provincial Policy Statement)
- ❑ ...



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Thank You!

