



WHAT IS A NCE?

The Networks of Centres of Excellence program is a federal government funding instrument meant to stimulate leading-edge research in areas of importance to Canada. Its key objectives are to build on nation-wide and international research partnerships, to develop and retain world-class researchers and research translation capabilities and to create innovative knowledge and technology transfer opportunities and mechanisms.



QUICK FACTS

- MEOPAR was formally announced in May, 2012
- MEOPAR will receive \$25 million over 5 years from the Canadian government's NCE program with a possibility to renew funding for two additional cycles
- MEOPAR brings together 40 network investigators from across Canada and around the globe
- MEOPAR, through its Training Program, will engage over 300 highly qualified personnel in the first 5 years, including grad students, Postdoctoral Fellows, and technical/professional assistants.



MEET OUR SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR, DR. DOUG WALLACE

Dr. Wallace is no stranger to large, multi-disciplinary research programs. Before becoming MEOPAR's Scientific Director, Dr. Wallace led the first survey to measure the global distribution of fossil fuel carbon dioxide in the oceans. He also helped spearhead CARBOOCEAN, a five-year study of the ocean carbon cycle funded by the European Union, SOLAS, a global project investigating interactions between the atmosphere and ocean, and the establishment of a new atmosphere and ocean observatory on the Cape Verde Islands. Dr. Wallace also serves as Scientific Director of the Halifax Marine Research Institute.

MEOPAR'S MISSION

MEOPAR will deliver knowledge, technology, and people to enable Canada's communities and industry to enhance resilience and economic opportunity through an informed relationship with the changing marine environment.

THE NETWORK

Through its **Research Program**, MEOPAR is working to reduce Canada's vulnerability and exposure to hazards and decrease response time when marine emergencies occur. A set of integrated projects, each involving natural and social scientists in addition to partner organizations, will undertake model and technology development. Research is divided into two Themes: **Theme 1** focuses on improving the ability of government and the private sector to respond to existing and emerging marine hazards on time scales of hours to seasons. Integrated observation and prediction systems will be developed for strategic coastal locations. **Theme 2** aims to develop and test techniques expected to improve the ability of government, the private sector, and coastal communities to anticipate, prepare and adapt to developing marine risks on time scales of seasons to a century. Complex models of the marine environment linked with socioeconomic projections will be used to inform and guide policy.

Individual research projects can draw on expertise, models, and technology housed in cross-cutting Observation and Prediction Cores.

MEOPAR will organize a **Training Program** that will recruit and prepare highly qualified personnel to push Canada to the forefront in marine hazard assessment and management.

Our **Partnership Program** will engage industry and other non-academic partners with Network researchers in order to develop new areas of user-driven research. Joint funding of research activities will allow the Network to respond to time-sensitive opportunities and needs.