

BACKGROUND

Study on the Creation of a Marine Protected Area in Îles-de-la-Madeleine

Mandate and Membership of the Advisory Committee

On December 5, 2011, the governments of Canada and Quebec announced an agreement to conduct a study on the creation of a marine protected area in Îles-de-la-Madeleine. On this occasion, the parties clearly expressed their desire to encompass community interests throughout the study by creating an advisory committee that is representative of the area.

Role and mandate of the advisory committee

The advisory committee will provide advice to the steering committee, and is mandated to:

- encourage ongoing discussion with local and regional stakeholders;
- establish constructive collaboration regarding all information pertinent to the study on the creation of a marine protected area;
- ensure that the concerns and interests of the Îles-de-la-Madeleine community are addressed.

Objectives

- Regularly inform the community throughout the different steps in the study;
- Gather comments from the various stakeholders;
- Encourage exchange of information and data relevant to the study;
- Work as a team to identify possibilities and limitations pertaining to the creation of a marine protected area in Îles-de-la-Madeleine.

Membership and representativeness

The advisory committee is composed of 11 members representing the different sectors in Îles-de-la-Madeleine. Their participation is voluntary. They relay information to their own organization and, if possible, other agencies from the same sector.

Municipal

- Municipality of Les Îles-de-la-Madeleine
- Municipality of Grosse-Ile

Fisheries and aquaculture

- *Association des pêcheurs propriétaires des Îles-de-la-Madeleine*
- *Regroupement des pêcheurs professionnels des Îles-de-la-Madeleine*
- *Regroupement des pétoncliers et palangriers uniques madelinots*
- *Regroupement des mariculteurs du Québec*

Natural Heritage and Environment

- Îles-de-la-Madeleine ZIP Committee

Cultural Heritage

- *Réseau muséal des Îles-de-la-Madeleine*

Education and Awareness

- *Cégep de la Gaspésie et des Îles*

Economic Environment

- *Chambre de commerce des Îles-de-la-Madeleine*

Promotion of Tourism and Recreational Tourism

- *Tourisme Îles de la Madeleine*

Co-chairmanship

Committee co-chairs include the Assistant Deputy Minister of sustainable development for Quebec's Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs (MDDEP), the Executive Director of Parks Canada in Quebec, and the President of the Îles-de-la-Madeleine Agglomeration Council.

Themes

Members of the advisory committee will be regularly informed of the study's progress. They will provide study content advice to the steering committee, especially on the following themes:

- Ecological, economic, social and cultural characterization of the study area;
- Portrait of natural resources and their potential for development;
- A hierarchy of conservation objectives to implement in a marine protected area;
- Identifying and describing sectors of interest for the conservation of marine biodiversity and cultural resources;
- Assessing opportunities for development, education and the enjoyment of the marine environment as well as challenges to the establishment of a marine protected area;
- Economic analysis of territorial conservation issues.