

Canadian biogeochemical Argo workshop 2017

Summary

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On January 4-5, 2017 a planning workshop for the Canadian contribution to the biogeochemical Argo program was held at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Canada. About 30 researchers from universities and government labs representing the Canadian Atlantic, Arctic and Pacific regions met to discuss the key science questions that a Canadian biogeochemical Argo contribution would address.

These include:

- 1) the quantification of carbon sequestration in the Labrador Sea and North Atlantic,
 - 2) deep ocean ventilation via atmosphere-ocean exchange of oxygen in the same regions,
 - 3) the rapid changes in Arctic ecosystems,
 - 4) unexpected phenomena like the 2013-14 “warm blob” observed along the Pacific coast,
- and
- 5) open-ocean drivers of deoxygenation and acidification of coastal ecosystems.

Presently lacking sufficient observations to address these questions, full participation in the program would have significant benefits for Canada.

A white paper is being prepared, and a strategy for securing funding in support of the program was discussed and will be pursued over the coming months.