



2021  
2030

United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development

MARCH 2024 | ISSUE 11

# *ORCA Presents:* **CANADA'S OCEAN DECADE NEWSLETTER**

## **In this issue:**

- Introducing Our New ORCA Council Co-Chair
- National Research Council's Ocean Program Announced as New Ocean Decade Implementing Partner
- Call for Parsons Award Nominations Now Open
- Calling all Young Professionals: Apply Now for a 10-month Training Course by the Nippon Foundation-POGO Centre of Excellence
- 'Enhancing Estuary Resilience in Coastal BC' Receives Ocean Decade Endorsement
- Collaborative Project Opportunities with the Climate Ready British Columbia Seafood Program
- ECOP Canada & Canadian Geographic Photo Contest
- Upcoming Events
- Contact Us



# Introducing Our New ORCA Council Co-Chair

Join us in welcoming new Co-Chair Dr. Mario Pinto, Vice-President, Research and International at the University of Manitoba.



*Dr. Mario Pinto, Vice-President, Research and International at the University of Manitoba, and ORCA Council Co-Chair*

Dr. Pinto joined the University of Manitoba in October 2022, having previously served in leadership positions at a variety of institutions in Canada and abroad. With a background in chemical biology Dr. Pinto is an advocate for global connectivity, equity, diversity, and inclusion in research and a model of innovation that includes feedback loops between Research, Development, and Delivery. Recognized with numerous awards, he is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, serves on the Board of Research Manitoba, the Governing Circle of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, and the MITACS Board of Directors.



*I am excited to be joining ORCA as its next co-Chair and building on the exceptional work to date. I am particularly interested in expanding the area of ocean science to include the Canadian North and to embracing initiatives from Coast to Coast to Coast.*

## Announcing the National Research Council's Ocean Program as the Newest Ocean Decade Implementing Partner

*The National Research Council of Canada's (NRC) Ocean program has been endorsed as an official Implementing Partner under the Ocean Decade, a form of recognition describing institutions, networks, or groups that are committed to the vision and mission of the Decade, and that are making significant and sustained efforts as part of this commitment. The NRC's Ocean program is aligned with **Canada's Ocean Supercluster** and supports Canada's first Blue Economy Strategy, fostering the development of technology to improve ocean health and foster economic growth. [Visit the NRC Ocean program website to learn more.](#)*



**WE NEED NOMINATIONS!**

©Fisheries and Oceans Canada

## Call for Parsons Award Nominations Now Open

Know an ocean science star? Time for them to be recognized! DFO is currently accepting nominations for the [Timothy R. Parsons Medal](#) for lifetime or recent outstanding achievements in ocean sciences. [Learn more](#) and submit your nominations by April 15, 2024.

## Calling all Young Professionals: Apply Now for a Ten-month Training Course by the Nippon Foundation-POGO Centre of Excellence

The fourth phase of the [Nippon Foundation-POGO Centre of Excellence](#) (NF-POGO CofE) will be hosted by Ocean Frontier Institute, Dalhousie University, Hakai Institute, and Marine Institute! As part of this intensive ten-month training course, ten young professionals from emerging and developing Nations will participate in interdisciplinary and hands-on learning programs beginning in Fall 2024! [Learn more](#).

## ‘Enhancing Estuary Resilience in Coastal BC’ Receives Ocean Decade Endorsement

The Nature Trust of British Columbia project [‘Enhancing Estuary Resilience in Coastal BC’](#) was endorsed by UNSECO as an official contribution to the Ocean Decade. This five-year project is supported by the British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF), which is co-funded by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and the Province of British Columbia, and is bringing together partners from 12 First Nations, government, environmental organizations and academic institutions to monitor and restore these invaluable habitats.





## Collaborative Project Opportunities with the Climate Ready British Columbia Seafood Program

The Climate Ready British Columbia Seafood Program is a \$1.7 million fund from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food in British Columbia supported by the Tula Foundation's [Ocean Decade Collaborative Center for the Northeast Pacific](#) that aims to support coastal communities in understanding, mitigating, and adapting to the impacts of climate change on oceans and coasts. Over the next two years, the Program will be supporting projects across four priority program areas outlined in the Ocean Decade-endorsed British Columbia Ocean Acidification/Hypoxia Action Plan (OAH), including:

- Advancing scientific Understanding of OAH
- Collaboration, knowledge transfer, awareness, and understanding related to OAH
- Marine Carbon Removal Technologies
- OAH Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies

Check [here](#) to learn about the collaborative projects that were selected for this fund.

## ECOP Canada & Canadian Geographic Photo Contest



This fall, ECOP Canada in collaboration with Canadian Geographic and Students on Ice Foundation hosted a joint photo contest. The over 300 entries are a testament to the vast potential early career professionals bring to Canada's blue economy and the Ocean Decade. Learn more about the contest and the winners [here](#).

*Liam Brennan: Overall Prize winner - winning a spot on the media team for the next Students on Ice Expedition*

# Upcoming Events

April 10-12, 2024	<b>2024 Ocean Decade Conference*</b> <b>V.ECOP Days 2024</b>	Barcelona, Spain Virtual
April 15, 2024	<b>Mobilizing Environmental DNA (eDNA) for Management in the Northeast Pacific</b>	Virtual
April 16-18, 2024	<b>Third International Conference on Ecosystem Approach to Management in the Arctic Large Marine Ecosystems</b> <b>Managing Marine Ecosystems in a Rapidly Warming Arctic</b>	Tromsø, Norway
April 30 – May 1, 2024	<b>Salmon Ocean Ecology Meeting</b>	Olympia, U.S.A.
May 12-16, 2024	<b>International Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species (ICAIS)</b>	Halifax, NS
May 13-16, 2024	<b>International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC)</b>	New Orleans, U.S.A.
May 20-24, 2024	<b>International Association for Great Lakes Research (IAGLR)</b> <b>67th Annual Conference on Great Lakes Research</b>	Windsor, ON
May 27-30, 2024	<b>Canadian Hydrographic Conference (CHC2024) 'Unveiling our Blue Planet'</b>	St. John's, NL
June 1-9, 2024	<b>Ocean Week Canada</b>	Across Canada and Virtual
June 8-12, 2024	<b>Lipids in the Ocean International Conference</b>	Halifax, NS
June 16-19, 2024	<b>Aquaculture Canada</b>	Charlottetown, PEI
July 29 – August 2, 2024	<b>13th International Conference on the Application of Stable Isotope Techniques in Ecological Studies (IsoEcol 2024)</b>	Fredericton, NB
July 30 – August 1, 2024	<b>Western Fish Disease Workshop (WFDW)</b>	Boise, U.S.A.

\*Endorsed Ocean Decade Action

## CONTACT US

*Together, we can advance our collective understanding of the ocean!*  
*Email us for more information or to subscribe to this newsletter*

Email: [DFO.OceanDecade-DecennieOcean.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:DFO.OceanDecade-DecennieOcean.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Website: [United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development \(2021-2030\)](#)

Email: [ORCA.AROC@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:ORCA.AROC@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Website: [Oceans Research in Canada Alliance](#)  
Twitter: [@CanOceanSci](#) | LinkedIn: [@CanOceanSci](#)



Fisheries and Oceans  
Canada

Pêches et Océans  
Canada