



The ocean around us, the country that joins us: OFI comes to IOF

The Pacific Ocean may be larger, but the Atlantic Ocean – specifically the North Atlantic – is significant. The region's unique physical, chemical and biological processes make it an epicentre of international scientific interest and a predictor for the global ocean. Its deep overturning circulation results in the most intense carbon sequestration on the planet. It has a highly productive marine ecosystem and air-sea interactions that modulate the weather and climate of North America and Europe. At the same time, climate change – specifically diminished ice cover – has increased shipping in the Canadian Arctic, raising sovereignty, security, social and environmental issues.

The Ocean Frontier Institute (OFI) was established in 2016 to bring together researchers from both sides of the North Atlantic to better understand how and why the North Atlantic is changing and to identify effective approaches to resource development that are globally competitive and sustainable.

On May 23, Wendy Watson-Wright, CEO of the OFI, will provide an overview of her organization, its research and expected benefits for Canada, and will discuss current and potential future connections between OFI and IOF.

Dr. Wendy Watson-Wright Chief Executive Officer, Ocean Frontier Institute



Dr. Wendy Watson-Wright is the Chief Executive Officer of the Ocean Frontier Institute (OFI). Headquartered at Dalhousie University and Memorial University of Newfoundland, the OFI is a Canadian-led interdisciplinary transnational research institute whose aim is the safe and sustainable development of the ocean frontier, with a current focus on the North Atlantic and Canadian Arctic gateway.

From 2010 to 2015, Dr. Watson-Wright served as the Executive Secretary and Assistant Director General of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC-UNESCO) in Paris. The IOC is considered as the competent international organization for marine scientific research in the UN. For most of her career, she held various senior positions within Fisheries and Oceans Canada, including as Assistant Deputy Minister of Science from 2001 to 2009.



Thursday, May 23, 2019 ❖ 2:00pm ❖ AERL Theatre