

Press Release
For Immediate Release
July 26, 2012

Save Ocean Science! Public Rally Gathers over 600 Citizens Denouncing Federal Science Cuts in St. Andrews and Beyond

Over 600 citizens rallied together at Indian Point in St Andrews, NB for an event organized by SOS (Save Ocean Science), a non-partisan citizen's group. Attendees formed a large, human SOS to denounce recent federal budget cuts and express support for environmental science. These cuts will close the St. Andrews Biological Station Library, eliminate the Contaminants and Toxicology program, and severely cut the Habitat program. A number of positions are to be eliminated, affecting local scientists. The aerial SOS was captured from the air by plane and by bucket truck. Attendees also held signs with slogans including "Save Ocean Science", "This is not fiscal responsibility", "Keep environmental response team", "Don't hijack our future!", and "Don't gut fish protection".

Caroline Davies, Chairperson of SOS, was pleased with the turn out. "It is clear that we are not alone in decrying the recent cuts to government science. With over 600 in attendance, we came together tonight to show support for our scientists and librarians and the work they do and to raise concern about the lasting impact of the cuts to science in St Andrews and across the country" commented Davies.

The SOS event was organized as a follow up to a recent public forum regarding the impacts of cuts on Aquatic Science at the St. Andrews Biological Station, which was held on July 18th. Save Ocean Science (SOS) is a recently formed group of non-partisan local citizens who are raising concern about the federal cuts that will close the St Andrews Biological Station Library, eliminate the Contaminants and Toxicology program, and severely cut the Habitat program.

See photos attached.

First Photo Credit to John Gardner/Timothy Foulkes (taken from a plane)

Second Photo credit to Alec Smythe

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