

[X CLOSE ARTICLE](#)

The ChronicleHerald.ca

Published: 2007-02-12

Dal ocean tracking project to get grant

Dalhousie University is to receive the largest federal research funding grant in its history this morning.

Charles Crosby, a spokesman for the Halifax university, said the money is an investment in the Ocean Tracking Network, an international project that will enable oceans to be monitored in greater detail than ever before.

"It's a multimillion-dollar funding announcement," Mr. Crosby said in an interview.

"It's the largest funding announcement of its kind in Dalhousie's history."

Mr. Crosby declined to divulge the specific amount of the funding, preferring to wait until the official announcement today.

Peter MacKay, Nova Scotia's representative in the federal cabinet, will stand in for Industry Minister Maxime Bernier to make the presentation.

"It's allowing us to take our place as one of the world's leading ocean research institutions," Mr. Crosby said.

"We've already established a reputation in this area but this will just help confirm that."

The Ocean Tracking Network will involve sensors being placed in oceans around the world to monitor through acoustic signals all marine life and their migratory and predatory patterns.

The system will also be able to help predict tsunamis and other weather patterns and record climate change effects.

Ron O'Dor, a Dalhousie University professor, is the lead researcher of the initiative, which involves several other academic institutions, including Stanford University in California.

The Ocean Tracking Network had sought \$32 million in funding from Canada, while the total cost of the project was previously estimated at \$150 million.

(jsimpson@herald.ca)

[X CLOSE ARTICLE](#)

© 2007 The Halifax Herald Limited