



The Canadian RADARSAT-2 satellite by MDA is one of the technologies that LOOKNorth will be validating in the North.

vincial government has expressed in this sector has helped us to be as good as, or better than, anywhere else in the world. We've moved from the back seat to the front seat in the way we're perceived both nationally and internationally."

Launched in May of 2011 by C-CORE, LOOKNorth is a five-year initiative to test and validate remote-sensing technologies for applications to support safe and sustainable development of Canada's Northern natural resources: mining, hydro, and oil and gas. Marine projects include assessing the impact of building ports to support year-round shipping for the Baffinland and Mary's River mining projects and predicting the trajectory of ice islands.

The Government of Newfoundland and

Labrador invested \$2 million—\$1 million through the OceanTech Intelligence program and \$1 million through the Research and Development Corporation (RDC)—in LOOKNorth, along with a \$7.1-million investment from the Government of Canada and \$2.5 million from industry partners to date. The OceanTech Intelligence funding supports many of the centre's staff, including LOOKNorth's Northern Analyst Harry Borlase, a native of Labrador with a master's degree in polar law, as well as communication and outreach activities.

Borlase is learning how to navigate the Northern landscape regarding land claim agreements, mineral and surface rights, Northern stakeholder values, and environmental issues. He spends weeks at a time in Iqaluit,

Whitehorse, and Yellowknife meeting with key organizations and local communities, learning about their socio-economic issues. "He's looking at the values we need to be cognizant of when developing projects for the North—how to marry a project to the issues people have locally," says Paul Adlakha, LOOKNorth's executive director.

Adlakha and his colleagues conduct workshops in the North to explain the relevance of remote-sensing applications and to better understand Northern issues, with funding from OceanTech Intelligence. They hosted a free one-day workshop during the Ocean Innovation conference in Iqaluit in October; 50 participants from the federal and territorial governments, small businesses, and research institutes attended. Six annual workshops are scheduled in places such as Iqaluit, Yellowknife, and Whitehorse.

Adlakha credits the government of Newfoundland and Labrador with not trying to be all things to all people. "For instance, one focus is on ocean technology, and they have an integrated approach to how different departments can support the oceans sector," he says. That means they can look at the R&D, business development, and technology components of a project and match them to different areas in the department that support these elements, while adding value from their own perspectives. "I haven't seen that anywhere else," says Adlakha. "From the perspective of someone who does business across the country and around the world, this is something that's paying off for Newfoundland and Labrador." —ANDREW SAFER



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