Shoe Cove, just north of St John’s, had a tracking station that served the North Atlantic area up until a couple of weeks ago when it was dismantled by the federal government because of prohibitive costs. A new one will be built in Manitoba but it will only reach as far east as Gander, just missing the offshore. This development comes in the midst of a raging debate over search and rescue facilities that are available on the east coast.

This song is sung in F, playing D-shape chords capoed on the third fret. The D-shape chords are - in order - D A D G D A G Em Bm D A C E D.
We had a tracking station out in Shoe Cove
A satellite that served the people well
It tracked down fish and storms
And of icebergs had us warned
But now we can’t afford to pay the bill

Then the federal government in its wisdom
Packed the satellite into a crate
Now all the folks at sea
Both in fish and oil agree
That the data from NASA will be too late

They’ll build one out in Churchill, Manitoba
It’ll serve all provinces but Newfoundland
And the feds will build one too
In Thailand - bizarre but true
To guide Trudeau to Asia once again

Now Newfoundland’s east coast is blocked with pack ice
And there’s great big bergs and growlers out there too
It’s dangerous for ships
When they haven’t got those blips
To tell them that there’s icebergs coming through

A former search and rescue man says danger
Is awaiting oil rigs and ships offshore
Cause equipment’s under par
And it has to come too far
Shoe Cove shutdown hampers searchers even more

It may already be too late to save the station
The satellite’s dismantled back to front
So to mariners at sea
Take this warning by me
May God help you cause Shoe Cove station won’t