



GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE CITIES INITIATIVE

RESOLUTION 12-2006M

ST. LAWRENCE ACTION PLAN

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence River has been a driving force in Canadian economic and social development and is also a vital and fragile ecosystem which is home to numerous species;

WHEREAS, over 60% of the population of Québec lives along the banks of the St. Lawrence River and it supplies over 45% of the province's drinking water and the Québec government has adopted a water policy to support actions to ensure water quality;

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes, including Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario, and the connecting channels form the largest surface fresh water system on earth and are a shared public treasure;

WHEREAS, in June 1988 the government of Canada announced the implementation of a vigorous clean-up and protection plan for the St. Lawrence River, known as the St. Lawrence Action Plan;

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence Action Plan consisted of three phases, each a renewed action plan for the years 1988 – 1993, 1993 – 1998, and 1998 – 2003, and the St. Lawrence Plan for 2005 – 2010, a resolute movement forward toward developing an increasingly integrated management approach to sustainable development of the river.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative member cities support the St. Lawrence Action Plan;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the cities acknowledge that they have an important role in the implementation of the action plan to restore and sustain the St. Lawrence River;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the cities pledge to work closely with the province and other stakeholders on implementation of the action plan and on future efforts regarding the restoration and preservation of the St. Lawrence River;



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the cities will make every effort to ensure municipal representation in decision-making regarding the St. Lawrence River.

Signed this 23rd day of June, 2006

David Miller, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative