



Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative  
Alliance des villes des Grands Lacs et du Saint-Laurent

## **GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE CITIES INITIATIVE**

### **RESOLUTION 10-2006M**

#### **GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO BILL 43 – CLEAN WATER ACT, 2005**

**WHEREAS**, Bill 43- The Clean Water Act was introduced in the Province of Ontario Legislature on December 5, 2005 and has now received second reading and been referred to the Standing Committee on Social Policy;

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Clean Water Act is designed to protect existing and future groundwater sources of drinking water through elimination of threats to water quantity and quality by controlling inherently risky activities on land in vulnerable groundwater recharge areas;

**WHEREAS**, groundwater protection will be implemented through a localized approach to water management giving responsibility local conservation authorities;

**WHEREAS**, the Great Lakes provide the drinking water for 75% of Ontario's population;

**WHEREAS**, the long-term sustainability of reliable, high quality water source is important for municipalities that rely on the Great Lakes for their drinking water supply;

**WHEREAS**, the zone of influence for municipal water treatment facilities relying on nearshore Great Lakes waters, extends across the shorelines of the lakes and crosses many local and regional conservation authority jurisdictional boundaries for most forms of pollution (watershed flows, non-point source discharges and sewage treatment plant discharges) and across the entire basin for trace level contaminants;

**WHEREAS**, the Great Lakes Charter Annex recognizes the need for a provincially led, basin-wide approach to sustainable water management;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative commend the Province of Ontario for introducing legislation to protect groundwater sources of drinking water;



**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative encourages the Province of Ontario to implement a basin-wide strategy for sustainable water resource management that applies to the Great Lakes and addresses its responsibilities under the U.S.-Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement and recognizes the need to reduce pollutants entering the resource from agricultural, suburban and urban non-point sources throughout the watershed; with the strategy focusing water protection at source, including such measures as water conservation, water budgeting, pollution prevention planning, water re-use and at-source storm water management;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative submit comments to the Standing Committee of the Ontario Legislature on *Bill 43 –the Clean Water Act, 2005*.

Signed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Miller".

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