

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 07-B-01**

#### **WATER LEVELS**

**WHEREAS**, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River are the largest surface fresh water system in the world;

**WHEREAS**, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence are essential to the millions people in Canada and the United States who live in the basin and rely on the resource as a source of drinking water, a place for recreation, a means of transportation, and many other uses that contribute to the economic well being and quality of life of the area;

**WHEREAS**, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence have been subjected to a number of threats over the years that must be dealt with effectively if the resource is going to continue to provide the value to the area that it has in the past;

**WHEREAS**, one of the most significant threats in the recent past has been declining water levels, especially in Lake Superior, Lake Huron, and Lake Michigan;

**WHEREAS**, the reasons for the declining water levels have been the subject of much study and discussion, but there is not agreement within the scientific community as to what the reasons are for this situation;

**WHEREAS**, the lower lake levels are already causing significant environmental and economic harm in many parts of the region, and there is an urgent need for the causes of the problems to be identified and solutions found and implemented in order to reduce the impacts on the area;

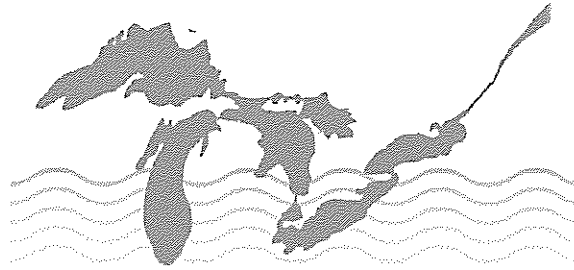
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative advise the International Joint Commission of the urgency of this situation and encourage them to proceed with their Upper Great Lakes and St. Clair River Study with a sense of urgency so that scientifically sound information can be provided to the governments of Canada and the United States to form the basis of a course of action for solving the problems;

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*Gary Becker, Mayor of Racine, Chair*

*Richard M. Daley, Mayor of Chicago, Founding United States Chair*

*David Miller, Mayor of Toronto, Founding Canadian Chair*

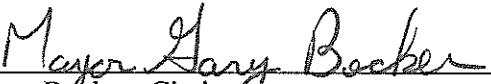


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**FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative monitor the progress of this Study closely through its representative on the Public Interest Advisory Group, and keep its membership advised of the progress of the work;

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative organize meetings of mayors and the interested public in the Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, and Lake Huron basins to provide further information about the nature and magnitude of the problem and progress toward finding and implementing solutions.

Signed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2007.

  
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Gary Becker, Chairman  
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative