



GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE CITIES INITIATIVE
ALLIANCE DES VILLES DES GRANDS LACS ET DU SAINT-LAURENT

RESOLUTION 11 – 2008M

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF PHARMACEUTICALS AND PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS

WHEREAS, the U.S. EPA recognizes that pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs), such as medication residues that pass out of the body and into sewer lines, externally-applied drugs and personal care products that are washed down the shower drain, and unused or expired medications that are placed in the trash or flushed down toilets, and being found in trace amounts in drinking water systems in the U.S. and Canada; and

WHEREAS, research suggests that certain drugs may cause ecological harm and more research is needed to determine the extent of ecological harm and any role it may have in potential human health effects; and

WHEREAS, the disposal of household PPCPs are not regulated; and

WHEREAS, there is growing recognition of the need for updated and standardized regulations and for consumer education to reduce the discharge of PPCPs into drinking water sources and other waterways; and

WHEREAS, in the absence of mandatory collection of PPCPs, many municipalities and pharmacies have established voluntary pharmaceutical take-back programs or household hazardous waste collection programs that accept pharmaceuticals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative will conduct a survey of members' PPCP take back or collection programs to determine the extent and cost of these programs in the Great Lakes –St. Lawrence region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative encourages its members and other cities to initiate, continue, and expand PPCP take back or collection programs;




BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative calls on federal, state and provincial governments to review and update their regulations with respect to the collection and disposal of PPCPs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative calls on federal, state, provincial governments to ensure that appropriate and adequate funding be made available to municipalities to implement updated regulations with respect to the collection and disposal of PPCPs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative will explore and work to form partnerships between member cities and pharmaceutical companies, corporations and related industries to develop take-back programs to safely dispose of PPCPs.

Signed this 17th day of July, 2008


Lynn Peterson, Chair
Mayor of Thunder Bay
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative