WHEREAS, the International Joint Commission (IJC) has existed to oversee the implementation of the Boundary Waters Treaty (1909) between Canada and the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, the Boundary Waters Treaty will celebrate 100 years of continuous force and effect governing water resource management along the Canada-U.S. border; and

WHEREAS, over the course of that 100 years, the IJC has played a key role in preventing and resolving disputes between the United States and Canada, and has helped ensure sound water management of the shared waters; and

WHEREAS, the Stockholm Water Prize suitably recognizes institutions (among others) for outstanding water-related activities; and

WHEREAS, the IJC represents a model of governance for international water stewardship goals; and

WHEREAS, the environment of Great Lakes Basin and St. Lawrence River represents a significant component of the IJC’s responsibilities under the Boundary Waters Treaty; and

WHEREAS, the IJC has recognized the important role of municipalities in managing the shared waters by appointing a representative to the Water Quality Board, and by highlighting municipal participation in the development of a new Water Quality Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Municipality of Niagara, an active member of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, has begun the process of nominating the IJC for the Stockholm Water Prize and is seeking support from the larger municipal sector in and around the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River as part of the nomination process.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative supports the Regional Municipality of Niagara’s nomination of the IJC for the Stockholm Water Prize.

Signed this 17th day of July, 2008

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