



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

RESOLUTION 1 – 2008B

ADOPTION OF THE CANADA-ONTARIO AGREEMENT MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION (COA MOC) BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO AND THE GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE CITIES INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative has advocated consistently for a 'seat at the table' with respect to Great Lakes and St. Lawrence decision making bodies and agreements; and

WHEREAS, as attention turns to near shore impacts on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, the effects of climate change, and drinking water source protection, the federal and Ontario governments are increasingly interested in ways to collaborate with municipalities to address these issues'; and


WHEREAS, a review initiated by the Environment Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Environment to determine effective ways to engage stakeholders on Great Lakes issues provides an opportunity for discussion of a formal role for municipalities within the Canada Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Ecosystem Basin (COA) framework; and

WHEREAS, the Ontario Government and the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative have negotiated a Memorandum of Cooperation to facilitate municipal engagement and cooperation with the Ontario Government with respect to COA; and

WHEREAS, such an agreement may serve as a precedent for similar side agreements to other Great Lakes and St. Lawrence agreements such as the St. Lawrence Plan and the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative Board of Directors adopt and commit to implement the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ontario Ministries of Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative.

Signed this 16th day of July, 2008


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