



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

SUMMARY OF 2011 RESOLUTIONS

1. Stormwater Management in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin
2. Support for Measures to Promote Safe Shipment of Goods in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Region
3. Impact of Local Investment on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence
4. Chicago Area Waterway System 21st Century – Stopping Asian Carp and Other Invasive Species
6. Endorsing Green Marine
7. Protection of Drinking Water Intakes and Tributaries - *Submitted by the Metropolitan Community of Québec*
8. Development and Consideration of Sustainable Urban Water Management - *Submitted by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District and the City of Milwaukee*
9. Water Summit - *Submitted by the City of Racine*
10. Resolution Endorsing Town of Ajax Council Resolution on Asian Carp
11. Flooding in the Richelieu and Lake Champlain Valleys



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

RESOLUTION 1 – 2011M

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IN THE GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE
RIVER BASIN

WHEREAS, stormwater has been recognized by the International Joint Commission, and Canadian and US regulatory authorities as a leading non-point source of pollutants to nearshore water quality in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence; and

WHEREAS, greater urban intensification can be anticipated to result in more untreated stormwater from population growth entering our waterways, further adversely impacting nearshore water quality; and

WHEREAS, more intense and more frequent storms due to climate change will increasingly overwhelm current municipal stormwater systems and wastewater treatment facilities, seriously damaging municipal infrastructure and public property, and at times resulting in flooding situations that are a danger to public safety; and

WHEREAS, stormwater regulations and standards vary widely across the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence basin, resulting in significant discrepancies in stormwater activities, and financing of these activities; and

WHEREAS, the responsibility for stormwater management is decentralized, shared across multiple municipal departments and across residential, industrial, commercial and institutional sectors; and

WHEREAS, stormwater management still commonly does not have a dedicated revenue stream as does water and wastewater management; and

WHEREAS, investing in stormwater measures provides environmental, social and economic benefits over the long term; and

WHEREAS, municipalities find it challenging to measure progress in water quality improvements arising from improved stormwater controls primarily in the absence of study of baseline and subsequent environmental conditions; and



WHEREAS, an increasing number of municipalities are adopting stormwater management plans integrating ‘green infrastructure’, using on-site natural attenuation where soil conditions are conducive to reduce the amount of stormwater to be collected or otherwise managed through costly grey infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, for the above reasons, the Cities Initiative has designated stormwater management as its first priority area under its Green CiTTS (Cities Transforming Towards Sustainability) program, and has surveyed its members on their current stormwater practices, and has developed a report and recommendations on stormwater practices across the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Basin.

- a. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cities Initiative encourage and support its members through training, pilot projects, research, web-based resource and the exchange of best practices, to continuously improve their stormwater practices by developing a comprehensive corporate-wide stormwater plan for the purpose of reducing and remediating stormwater using a centralized management approach, which
 - a. Defines explicit roles and responsibilities for municipal departments involved in stormwater management;
 - b. Provides training on water quality generally and more specifically stormwater quality and quantity standards and analyses for officials responsible for stormwater management (e.g. public works, building and planning departments), and in ICI sectors;
 - c. Implements education/outreach programs and/or regulation of ICI and residential sector stormwater activities;
 - d. Requires practical but effective stormwater management components in new and infill/intensification/retrofit development;
 - e. Establishes implementable maintenance and inspection programs for existing and new stormwater infrastructure eg. retention ponds;
 - f. Establish and maintains a dedicated budget for stormwater activities and a stable, sustainable source of funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that members of the Cities Initiative endeavor to reduce the impact of stormwater on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence and their tributaries by:

- a. Setting water quality goals and regularly monitoring and reporting on the performance of stormwater systems;
- b. Improving monitoring of stormwater impacts on water quality in receiving waters and reporting on the findings annually;



- c. Promoting pilot projects on stormwater quality in communities throughout the Great Lakes Basin in conjunctions with senior governments and local academic institutions (e.g. universities);
- d. Improving stormwater quality through promotion of and implementation of pollution prevention plans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that members of the Cities Initiative be encouraged, and be provided support from all levels of government, to prepare for the impact of changing climatic conditions as applies to stormwater by:

- a. Preparing climate change vulnerability assessments;
- b. Gathering existing precipitation and climate change modelling data for your local region;
- c. Revising infrastructure design criteria and intensity duration frequency curves;
- d. Developing a Master Plan with short, medium and long-term goals to address flood risk areas associated with the Great Lakes shoreline and tributaries.
- e. Developing emergency response plans associated with anticipated flooding in flood plains and other low-lying or vulnerable areas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that members of the Cities Initiative endeavor to integrate Low Impact Development (L.I.D.) approaches to stormwater management throughout communities, including areas of planned high density urbanization, and remove barriers that obstruct the application of green infrastructure.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative and its members seek support from federal, provincial, state authorities

- a. For a basin-wide public awareness campaign linking the effect of on-site stormwater management and runoff on Great Lakes and St. Lawrence water quality;
- b. To advance stormwater management through stormwater framework guidance materials, guidance and incentives for climate change adaptation, the removal of barriers to the application of new stormwater technologies or practices;
- c. To advance water quality monitoring, reporting and analyses associated with stormwater through coordination and sharing of data and reports collected at the Federal, Provincial, state, regional and local levels with a view to conducting comprehensive nearshore water quality studies and seeking solutions that will bring about desired improvements;
- d. to advance commitments or set goals with respect to stormwater to improve nearshore water quality, in agreements currently under renegotiation including the St. Lawrence



Plan, the Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem, and the Canada-US Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement;

- e. to recognize that stormwater management lacks funding and therefore municipalities request federal, provincial and state authorities to increase and strengthen funding for stormwater management;
- f. Seek funding from government sources, including Environment Canada's Great Lakes Sustainability Fund and the US Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, for municipal stormwater demonstration projects and the undertaking and analysis of nearshore water quality study results; and encourage more dedicated funding for green infrastructure through green infrastructure set asides in Canada's Strategic Infrastructure Fund and the U.S. Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

Signed this 16th day of June, 2011

Brian McMullan, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Mayor of St. Catharines



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

RESOLUTION 2 – 2011M

SUPPORT FOR MEASURES TO PROMOTE SAFE SHIPMENT OF GOODS IN
THE GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE REGION

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence provide a vital transportation corridor, and this marine highway stretches over 2,000 miles from Duluth to the Gulf of St. Lawrence; and

WHEREAS, the annual commerce of the Seaway is over 180 million metric tons and maritime transportation contributes to the economic vitality of our ports, harbors, communities and regions; and

WHEREAS, the long term prospects for continued growth of the world economy is such that doubling of maritime traffic will occur in intervals of 15-20 years; and

WHEREAS, two thousand different chemical products are being shipped by sea on a regular basis; and

WHEREAS, spill prevention and response planning has traditionally focused on spills of oil and gas from ships, and there is a need to recognize emerging issues such as spills from additional sources such as pipelines, and spills from additional cargo such as chemical and other materials; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence are the largest source of freshwater in the world, and provide drinking water to over 40 million people; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence despite their vast size make up a fragile and vulnerable ecosystem and continuous efforts are necessary to ensure their protection and restoration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative encourages the U.S. and Canadian federal/ provincial, First nations and tribes to work collaboratively with municipal governments and other parties to support all measures to promote the safe shipment of goods in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence; and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative calls on the U.S. and Canadian federal, provincial and local governments to take a leadership role in development of measures to reduce spills, increase spill prevention, response and rehabilitation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative calls on the federal governments to hasten the development of spill prevention and response plans for chemical products, and other emerging cargo,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative calls on all three orders of government to work co-operatively to ensure that sufficient resources, funding and training is provided to ensure safe transportation of cargo on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence.

Signed this 16th day of June, 2011

Brian McMullan, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Mayor of St. Catharines



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

RESOLUTION 3 – 2011M

IMPACT OF LOCAL INVESTMENT ON
THE GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River system is a significant natural resource and ecosystem upon which millions rely for drinking water and recreation, as well as being the cornerstone for industry and a vibrant regional economy; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative is a coalition of more than 70 U.S. and Canadian mayors and locally elected officials representing over 13 million citizens, working to advance the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River and to help ensure the resource is managed in a sustainable manner for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative recognizes that mayors and local elected officials are at the frontline addressing issues concerning the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence and serve as catalysts for action to protect and restore the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence; and

WHEREAS, a 2008 study conducted by the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative and the Great Lakes Commission found that local governments around the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River invest an estimated \$15 billion annually in efforts to protect and restore the resource; and

WHEREAS, investment in the Lakes and River results in a multitude of benefits, including jobs creation, quality of life improvements, environmental benefits and economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative acknowledges the significance of federal investment in the region through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund of Canada and the positive effects these investments have had on the region and the resource; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River region contains a great deal of aging water and wastewater infrastructure that needs to be brought up to date, and



there is an urgent need to invest in repairing and replacing this aging infrastructure and this represents one of the major investment deficits facing the region;

WHEREAS, funding for green infrastructure, a sustainable approach that can compliment and extend the life of traditional grey infrastructure, has not historically been a priority for federal, state or provincial governments, though there has been some movement towards dedicated funding, as exemplified in the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 20% set aside for green infrastructure projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (Cities Initiative) encourages the continued commitment of local governments to invest to protect, restore and promote the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative encourages other orders of government to continue their commitment to protect, restore and promote the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence through increased and sustained investment in this vital resource; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative urges that all orders of government improve tracking and documenting the economic impact of investment in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, including job creation; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative calls for dedicated funding for green infrastructure in both Canada and the U.S. through green infrastructure set asides in Canada's Strategic Infrastructure Fund and the U.S. Clean Water State Revolving Fund as a means to help address aging water and wastewater infrastructure issues throughout the region and country.

Signed this 16th day of June, 2011

Brian McMullan, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Mayor of St. Catharines



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

RESOLUTION 4 – 2011M

CHICAGO AREA WATERWAY SYSTEM 21ST CENTURY-
STOPPING ASIAN CARP AND OTHER INVASIVE SPECIES

WHEREAS, Over 180 invasive species are already in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence and are doing extensive damage to the ecosystem and the economy; and

WHEREAS, threats of more introductions are present and will continue in the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, one of the greatest threats is the Asian carp, which has migrated through the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers and is approaching Lake Michigan; and

WHEREAS, one of the most significant pathways for the Asian Carp and other invasive species is the Chicago Area Waterway System (CAWS); and

WHEREAS, CAWS was created over 100 years ago to reverse the flow of the Chicago River in order to carry treated wastewater away from Lake Michigan, and also to enhance transportation and improve flood control in the region; and

WHEREAS, much has changed in those 100 years, and there is currently an opportunity to develop ways to bring CAWS into the 21st century in a way that can stop the passage of invasive species in both directions, and at the same time improve water quality, transportation, and flood control; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (Cities Initiative) together with the Great Lakes Commission (GLC) is leading an expedited project to develop options for bringing about such improvements to CAWS.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative gives its full support to this work to develop options for CAWS; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative fully supports the efforts of state, provincial, and Federal governments to keep the Asian carp out of the Great Lakes in the short and mid-term while long term solutions are being developed; and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative and the GLC will work cooperatively with the full range of stakeholders in this project, especially with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (US ACE) and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD); and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative encourages US ACE and MWRD to cooperate fully with the Cities Initiative and GLC to share information and to make maximum use of the work done by the Cities Initiative and GLC in the CAWS 21 project so that a permanent solution can be found and implemented to prevent the passage of invasive species through this waterway and to bring about the needed improvements in water quality, transportation, and flood control.

Signed this 16th day of June, 2011

Brian McMullan, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Mayor of St. Catharines



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

RESOLUTION 6 – 2011M

ENDORISING GREEN MARINE

WHEREAS, the maritime industry is adopting voluntarily common objectives to improve its environmental performance; and

WHEREAS, the constituents of the maritime industry unite with the aim of applying a voluntary environmental policy on the whole Great Lakes and the St-Lawrence River corridor; and

WHEREAS, Green marine is an initiative of associations representing the maritime industry of Canada and the United States, including American Great Lakes Ports Association, St-Lawrence Shipowners Association, Association of Canadian Port Authorities, Canadian Shipowners Association, Chamber of Marine commerce, Shipping Federation of Canada, Ontario Marine Transportation Forum, St-Lawrence Economic Development Council (Sodes), and United States Great Lakes Shipping Association; and

WHEREAS, the main goals of Green Marine are to 1). strengthen environmental performance through a process of continuous improvement; 2). build strong relations with Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Waterway stakeholders; and 3). heighten understanding of the industry’s activities and environmental benefits; and

WHEREAS, the maritime industry recognizes the environmental impacts linked with its activities, and it takes action by mobilizing around seven major environmental issues: Aquatic invasive species; Pollutant air emissions: sulphur oxides (SOx) and nitrogen oxides (NOx); Greenhouse gases (GHGs); Cargo residues; Oily water; Conflicts of use in ports and terminals (noise, dust, odors and light); and Environmental leadership; and

WHEREAS, every year the participants of Green Marine measure their environmental performance according to the criteria established for each of the issues which apply to them. The collective results, and for each of the participants, are then communicated with the general public in an annual report produced by Green Marine; and

WHEREAS, Green Marine aims at concrete and measurable improvement of the environmental performance of the maritime industry of the Saint Lawrence and the Great



Lakes. To meet this objective, Green Marine adopted a set of guiding principles. In addition to respecting laws and applicable regulations, every company that joins Green Marine agrees to: 1). demonstrate corporate leadership in the search for best environmental practices in accordance with a sustainable development approach; 2). carry out its activities in a responsible manner with a view to minimizing its environmental impacts; 3). aim for continuous improvement of its environmental performance; 4). develop and promote voluntary protection measures; 5). integrate sustainable development practices that are technically and economically achievable; 6). collaborate with governments and citizen groups in the progressive implementation of the action plans arising from this program; and 7). actively participate in an integrated management approach for the St. Lawrence which includes collaboration with all the other actors at the local, regional, national and international levels; and

WHEREAS, Green Marine has 44 members including domestic and foreign shipowners, port authorities, stevedoring companies, terminal operators and shippers; and

WHEREAS, Green Marine has 28 supporters which endorse the environmental program either symbolically or through the provision of services, including: governments; municipalities; communities; and environment groups.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative supports the implementation of Green Marine's environmental program and shows its support for this initiative of sustainable development undertaken by the maritime industry by becoming a Supporter of Green Marine.

Signed this 16th day of June, 2011

Brian McMullan, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Mayor of St. Catharines



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

RESOLUTION 7 – 2011M

PROTECTION OF DRINKING WATER INTAKES AND TRIBUTARIES

Submitted by the Metropolitan Community of Québec

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence system supplies drinking water to close to 40 million citizens in the United States and Canada; and

WHEREAS, over 10% of the population of the United States (30 M inhabitants) and 30% of the population of Canada (10 M inhabitants) live within the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence system; and

WHEREAS, in addition to representing a major source of drinking water, the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence basin is used for swimming, recreation and fishing purposes; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the municipalities located in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence basin to protect this water for the current good of their citizens and that of future generations; and

WHEREAS, the costs inherent in treating water are generally higher than those resulting from regulatory protection measures; and

WHEREAS, human actions and activities carried out in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River basin, and more specifically those carried out in the watersheds of drinking water intakes, can be detrimental to the quality of water in these systems; and

WHEREAS, some of these actions should be modified, monitored or prohibited, or be the subject of more in-depth studies in order to reduce the likelihood of contamination of the raw water flowing into the water intakes, the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River; and

WHEREAS, national, provincial and state laws and regulations contribute to protecting sources of drinking water, but these laws and regulations are sometimes inadequate and not really adapted to certain local situations.



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (Cities Initiative) urges its members to introduce any regulatory action necessary for protecting the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River tributaries on their territories, and more specifically the tributaries where drinking water intakes are located; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative disseminate all information likely to help its members implement appropriate measures for protecting watercourses, including through its website; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative adequately publicize the measures put in place to that effect by its various members.

Signed this 16th day of June, 2011

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian McMullan', written over a horizontal line.

Brian McMullan, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Mayor of St. Catharines



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

RESOLUTION 8 – 2011M

DEVELOPMENT AND CONSIDERATION OF SUSTAINABLE URBAN WATER
MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

Submitted by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District and the City of Milwaukee

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities are the population centers of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence watershed; and

WHEREAS, complex challenges such as population growth, climate change, aging infrastructure, and changing regulatory climates present financial constraints on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities' ability to reinvest in their water infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities to insure that they protect the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence watershed by minimizing the negative impacts of their water usage, wastewater discharges, and stormwater runoff on the watershed; and

WHEREAS, utilizing sustainable urban water management principles, such as green infrastructure and triple bottom line accounting, help to increase the efficiency of existing grey infrastructure while building local economic growth and competitiveness and advancing social equity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative will develop Sustainable Urban Water Management Principles.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that these Sustainable Urban Water Management Principles will then be provided to all the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities for their consideration in future water-related investments.

Signed this 16th day of June, 2011

Brian McMullan, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Mayor of St. Catharines



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

RESOLUTION 9 – 2011M

WATER SUMMIT

Submitted by the City of Racine

WHEREAS, The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River are a unique and fragile ecosystem that holds almost 20 % of the surface fresh water in the world; and

WHEREAS, The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River directly support more than 1.5 million jobs and generate more than \$62 billion in US wages alone as well as provide drinking water for approximately 40 million U.S. and Canadian cities; and

WHEREAS, the resource faces a wide variety of threats, including toxic pollution, invasive species, storm water runoff, combined sewer overflows, habitat destruction, spills, and many others; and

WHEREAS, storm water runoff and combined sewer overflows present especially difficult mitigation challenges due to the financial costs associated with engineered and soft path control measures and the uncertainty in predicting the necessary capacity and success of these control measures due to effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, mayors and their cities are the front line of defense in preventing these pollution sources from adversely impacting the quantity and quality of Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River water resources; and

WHEREAS, many science-based engineered and best management approaches have been developed in recent years to address the adverse the impacts of stormwater runoff and combined sewer overflows in cities across the region; and

WHEREAS, much of this expertise resides within the university and professional communities and are available resources to assist municipalities in these efforts; and

WHEREAS, The Johnson Foundation at Wingspread has previously brought together national and international experts to strategize on the most practical and timely solutions to these problems; and



WHEREAS, a Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Summit, hosted by the Mowat Centre and the Brookings Institution will be held this summer (2011) and will aim to identify ways to collaborate across the border and ensure prosperity and sustainability in the region; and the outcomes from this summit can help inform discussions at future Great Lakes-St. Lawrence summits.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative work with the City of Racine, The Johnson Foundation at Wingspread, other member cities, and external academic and professional organizations interested in participating to plan and carry out a summit to find meaningful solutions to water issues such as, storm water runoff and combined sewer overflow management; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this summit be held at a to be determined date during the fall of 2011 at The Johnson Foundation facilities located at Wingspread near Racine, Wisconsin; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this summit be expressly designed for mayors and their senior technical staff as a problem solving venue where all participants would leave with new and better ideas on the management of combined sewer overflows and stormwater runoff.

Signed this 16th day of June, 2011

Brian McMullan, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Mayor of St. Catharines



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

RESOLUTION 10 – 2011M

RESOLUTION ENDORSING TOWN OF AJAX COUNCIL RESOLUTION
ON ASIAN CARP

WHEREAS, the attached Town of Ajax City Council resolution was proposed by the Town of Ajax after the date of nominations had passed, was voted by the membership to be read from the floor, was discussed by the members and then passed by the members at the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative Annual Members Meeting on June 15, 2011 in Niagara Falls.

WHEREAS, at the meeting, members discussed the need for prompt action to prevent Asian Carp, the need to increase public awareness on Asian Carp impacts and the need for increased public input into Asian Carp projects.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the following resolution calling for greater public input and meeting on preventing Asian Carp from reaching the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence was endorsed by the membership on the condition that:

- This resolution supports the earlier GLSLCI members' resolution calling for immediate action to prevent the entry of Asian carp into the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River
- A public meeting would not in any way act to delay action needed to prevent Asian Carp from entering the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence
- Regular reports on progress on Asian Carp be made publicly available.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative request that a public meeting be held in Canada on actions to prevent Asian Carp from entering the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, and that the Army Corps of Engineers be invited to hear the comments of Canadian municipalities, other stakeholders and members of the public about the impacts of invasive Asian Carp on shared international waters.

Signed this 16th day of June, 2011

Brian McMullan, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Mayor of St. Catharines



Extract of the Minutes of Council May 9, 2011

The following is a recommendation ratified by Council of the Town of Ajax at its regular Meeting of Council held May 9, 2011

Invasive Asian Carp Species in Great Lakes

Moved by: C. Jordan
Seconded by: P. Brown

WHEREAS the transfer of invasive Asian Carp (an aquatic nuisance species) into the Great Lakes poses a significant threat to the health and welfare of Canadians and Americans; and,

WHEREAS the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was authorized by U.S. Congress in 2007 to prevent the movement of aquatic species between the Mississippi River Basin and the Great Lakes Basin; and,

WHEREAS, according to a 2009 Risk Assessment conducted by the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the time has come to take decisive, co-ordinated actions to protect the Great Lakes from reaching the avoidable, irreversible ecological "tipping point" that is anticipated to result from an Asian Carp invasion; and,

WHEREAS a permanent, sustainable solution to the proliferation of Asian Carp in the Great Lakes Basin requires re-establishing the hydrologic separation between the Mississippi River Basin and the Great Lakes Basin in the Greater Chicago area, as confirmed in Resolution 8-2010M approved by the members of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative in 2010; and,

WHEREAS the complementary "Statement of Unity" respecting Asian Carp approved by the members of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative in 2010 established a series of short term (2010), mid term (2011-2012) and long term (2013 and beyond) actions; and,

WHEREAS the Statement of Unity did not anticipate the need for and appropriateness of conducting public hearings regarding Asian Carp as an international pollutant under Section 310(a) of the *Clean Water Act* of the U.S.A. to allow citizens and stakeholders in U.S. and Canadian Great Lakes communities who are concerned about the impact of an Asian Carp invasion to provide comments directly to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and,

WHEREAS the above-noted Resolution and Statement of Unity were endorsed as an expression of shared widespread concern about the threats that invasive Asian Carp would pose to ecological conditions, habitat and recreational activities along Great Lakes and St. Lawrence shorelines and tributaries, yet Canadian municipalities, stakeholders and citizens have not been provided with the opportunity to express their concerns directly to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as the U.S. *Clean Water Act* does not require that public hearings be conducted in Canada or, more specifically, in Ontario and Quebec;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the comments and recommendations set out in the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority report entitled “Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Feasibility Study-Invasive Asian Carp Species”, dated April 29, 2011, and the comments of Great Lakes United to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), dated March 31, 2011, regarding the “Great Lakes and Mississippi Interbasin Feasibility Study” be endorsed;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the members of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, other stakeholders and the public be afforded an opportunity to convey their views about the serious adverse impacts of Asian Carp, on recreational activities and commercial fisheries, as identified by both the Ontario Government and Environment Canada and valued at approximately \$400 million CDN per year, and other potentially costly impacts, in a public hearing conducted in Canada forthwith, and that USACE provide regular opportunities for discussion about their progress in public forums, at least two times per year, in Canada;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution be sent to the Board of Directors of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Cities Initiative requesting that said resolution be considered and approved at the Annual General Meeting being held on June 16, 2011 in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada and then sent forthwith to the U.S. Department of State with a request that Foreign Affairs host a public hearing in Canada where the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers team would be invited to hear the comments of Canadian municipalities, other stakeholders and members of the public about the impacts of invasive Asian Carp on shared international waters.

CARRIED



Blair Labelle, Deputy Clerk

Item AUTH7.8

TO: Chair and Members of the Authority
Meeting #4/11, April 29, 2011

FROM: Deborah Martin-Downs, Director, Ecology

RE: **GREAT LAKES AND MISSISSIPPI RIVER INTERBASIN FEASIBILITY STUDY**
Invasive Asian Carp Species

KEY ISSUE

Support for comments sent by Great Lakes United to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Feasibility Study (GLMRIS) to prevent the spread of the invasive Asian carp species between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River.

RECOMMENDATION

WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA) objectives for Healthy Rivers and Shorelines and Regional Biodiversity are supported by fisheries management plans that strongly recommend actions to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species;

AND WHEREAS the Asian carp are aquatic invasive species that pose a threat to the biodiversity and nearshore habitat structure of Lake Ontario and potentially the lower reaches of relatively large river systems within the TRCA jurisdiction, such as the Humber and Rouge Rivers and Duffins Creek;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT TRCA endorse the comments contained in the letter on the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Feasibility Study (GLMRIS), dated March 31, 2011, sent by the Great Lakes United (GLU) to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to prevent the spread of Asian carp between the Great Lakes and Mississippi;

AND FURTHER THAT staff report back to the Authority with progress on GLMRIS.

BACKGROUND

TRCA was approached by GLU, an international citizens coalition dedicated to protecting and restoring the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Ecosystem, and asked to consider endorse their comment letter as a means of helping to prevent the spread of Asian carp into the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River. The membership of GLU spans a diverse spectrum of interests, organizations and individuals, including citizens, environmentalists, conservationists, labour unions, First Nations, hunters, anglers, academics, and progressive business and industry.

GLU is very concerned about an Asian carp invasion to the international waters of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River. One of the most significant opportunities to help stop the Asian carp from spreading is the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Feasibility Study. This study was authorized by U.S. Congress in 2007 mandating that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps) determine how to prevent the two-way transfer of invasive fish species through the Chicago area waterways, as well as all the hydrological connections between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River watershed.

The Corps recently announced Chicago District's Notice of Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement; Initiate the Public Scoping Period; and host Public Scoping Meetings for the GLMRIS. GLU submitted, in the form of a letter with support from various groups (including TRCA), specific comments meant to improve the GLMRIS and ensure the ecological and economic health of these waters and basins are protected from the impacts of aquatic invasive species. The comments are summarized as:

- the need for the Corps to adhere to the U.S. Congressional authority to "*prevent*" the spread of aquatic invasive species between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins and not just "*reduce the risk*";
- accelerate the timeline for completion of the GLMRIS;
- prioritize the Chicago Area Waterway System portion of the GLMRIS;
- provide for public comment as the study proceeds; and
- conduct a public hearing in Canada.

RATIONALE

The term "Asian carp" refers to four different species of fish: Bighead, Black, Grass and Silver Carp. The Bighead and Silver Carp are the species closest to invading the Great Lakes from the Chicago area waterways. In 2005, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) introduced legislation making it illegal to possess, sell or import live Asian carp. A risk assessment study undertaken by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) in 2009 concluded that if Asian carp successfully colonized the Great Lakes there is a high probability they would spread across the Great Lakes basin. The study stresses that such an invasion would have a significant impact on the food web and trophic (community) structure of aquatic systems. Furthermore, the Ontario government has stated that if Asian carp enters the Great Lakes there will be serious adverse impacts on Ontario's recreational and commercial fisheries. Environment Canada has made a similar assessment.

The various fisheries management plans (FMP) written for watersheds within the TRCA jurisdiction all recognize that aquatic invasive species disrupt the balance of native aquatic communities and are considered one of the most serious threats to biodiversity. The most recently completed FMP, the *Rouge River Watershed Fisheries Management Plan* (TRCA and OMNR, 2010), recommends that priority emphasis should be placed on monitoring and preventing the spread of invasive and exotic fish species. To date, the Asian carp species of concern have not been collected by the TRCA regional or waterfront monitoring programs but field crews are alerted to the risk and know to bring such species to the attention of our partner agencies with mandates for fisheries management (i.e. OMNR and DFO).

The Toronto and Region Remedial Action Plan (RAP) has identified, as a first priority, the protection of existing fish habitat with a focus on coastal wetlands and nearshore physical habitat (e.g. reefs and spawning shoals). RAP states that protecting these existing habitats can be through the firm and effective enforcement of policies and guidelines, which would include legislation that speaks to preventing invasive species introductions. A secondary priority of RAP is to rehabilitate waterfront areas where habitat potential is very high (e.g. Rouge Marshes and Toronto Island wetlands), areas that are vulnerable to destruction should Asian carp enter the system. Over the recent decades, significant funding has been provided through RAP for extensive habitat rehabilitation along the Toronto waterfront with continued opportunities for future work. In this context, failing to keep Asian carp out of Lake Ontario could be a major setback to achieving RAP and TRCA priorities for fish habitat.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

TRCA staff will request to be maintained on the GLU distribution list and be informed of any progress with the GLMRIS and possible public hearings or meetings held in Ontario on the subject of preventing Asian carp entering Lake Ontario and the other Great Lakes.

A copy of the GLU comment letter and list of supporters is available upon request.

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Date: April 11, 2011

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 Basinkeeper*Barrington Area Conservation Trust*Blanchard River Watershed Partnership*Blue Water
 Sportfishing Association*Canadian Auto Workers-Windsor Regional Environment Council*Canadian
 Environmental Law Association*Citizens Concerned for Michipicoten Bay*Clean Water Action*Clean
 Water Action Alliance of Minnesota*Committee on the Middle Fork Vermilion River*Congregation of St.
 Joseph*Crop Plus*Duck Creek Watershed Assembly*Ducks Unlimited- Great Lakes/Atlantic
 Region*Ecojustice*Environment America*Environment Illinois*Environment New York*Environment
 Ohio*Environmental Defenders of McHenry County*Essex County Field Naturalists' Club*Fish On II
 Charters*Flint River Watershed Coalition*Forest City Flyfishing Club*Freshwater Future*Friends of Big
 Creek*Friends of the Mississippi River*Friends of the Salmon River*Friends of Wetlands*Georgian Bay
 Association*Great Lakes Environmental Law Center*Great Lakes Sport Fishermen*Great Lakes
 United*Gulf Restoration Network*Indiana Wildlife Federation*Iowa Environmental Council*Izaak Walton
 League of America - Minnesota Division*Izaak Walton League of America - Wisconsin Division*Izaak
 Walton League of America- A.D. Sutherland Chapter*Izaak Walton League of America- Dwight Lydell
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 York State Division*Izaak Walton League of America- Ohio Division*Kalamazoo River Sturgeon for
 Tomorrow*Kentucky Waterways Alliance*Lake Erie Charter Boat Association*Lake Erie Region
 Conservancy*Lake Erie Waterkeeper*Lake Ontario Trout & Salmon Association*Land Trust
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 Charter Boat Association*Michigan Environmental Council*Michigan United Conservation Clubs*Michigan
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 Wildlife Federation*Natural Resources Defense Council*Nature Abounds*Nature Center at Shaker
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 Association*Prairie Rivers Network*Quinte Conservation*River Alliance of Wisconsin*River Network*Rock
 River Coalition*Salmon Unlimited of Illinois*Save Lake Superior Association*Save the Dunes*Save The
 River*Shaker Lakes Garden Club*Sierra Club Ontario*Sierra Club-Binational Great Lakes
 Committee*Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity*St. Clair Region Conservation
 Authority*St. Louis River Alliance*Stray Cat Charter Fishing*Tennessee Clean Water Network* The Lake
 Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation*Thunder Bay Salmon Association*Tip of the Mitt Watershed
 Council*Toronto and Region Conservation Authority*Town and Country Resource Conservation and
 Development*Trollers Unlimited*Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition*Upper Thames River
 Conservation Authority*Vera Cruz Yacht Club*Welland River Keepers*Wisconsin Great Lakes
 Coalition*Wisconsin Lakes *Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association*Wisconsin Wildlife
 Federation*

March 31, 2011

Mr. David Wethington
 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 111 North Canal Street, 6th Floor
 Chicago, IL 60606

**Re: Notice of Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Initiate the
 Public Scoping Period and Host Public Scoping Meetings for the Great Lakes and
 Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS)**

Dear Mr. Wethington,

Please accept these comments submitted on behalf of the following 108 organizations, as well as
 our hundreds of thousands of members across the Great Lakes, St. Lawrence and Mississippi
 River basins, in both the United States and Canada, regarding the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

(Corps), Chicago District’s Notice of Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Initiate the Public Scoping Period and Host Public Scoping Meetings for the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS). We represent environmental, conservation, fishing, boating, labour and religious groups with a shared interest in preventing the ecological and economic harm caused by aquatic invasive species.

The undersigned organizations are extremely concerned about an Asian carp invasion to the international waters of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River, as well as concerned about the two-way transfer of aquatic invaders between the Mississippi and Great Lakes basins. We are submitting specific recommendations to improve GLMRIS and ensure the ecologic and economic health of these great basins is protected from damaging aquatic nuisance species.

Prevent Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Transfer

The GLMRIS study was authorized by the U.S. Congress in 2007 to “prevent” rather than “reduce the risk” of aquatic nuisance species movement between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basin¹. In other words, Congress requires the Corps to only be developing solutions that are 100% effective and it is beyond the scope of the Corps’ statutory authorization for the GLMRIS study to look at any solutions that would not achieve prevention.

We believe the only permanent and sustainable solution to the Asian carp threat to the Great Lakes, and the threat of future movement of invasives, is the hydrologic separation of the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River basin because if water does not flow between the two watersheds, water-based plants, animals and diseases will not be able to migrate actively or passively. The Corps has inappropriately broadened GLMRIS to study “risk reduction”² which is neither what Congress told them to do, nor a credible strategy to prevent ANS movement through the Chicago Area Waterway System (CAWS) or any of the other aquatic connections. Short-term, emergency activities have already been authorized around the CAWS and in Eagle Marsh, Indiana, and funded separately from GLMRIS. We support these emergency activities. However, expanding the scope of GLMRIS to address risk reduction will divert resources from determining how to achieve prevention as fast as possible.

¹ Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (“2007 WRDA”), Pub. L. No. 110-114, § 3061(d) (2007) says: (d) Feasibility Study- The Secretary, in consultation with appropriate Federal, State, local, and nongovernmental entities, shall conduct, at Federal expense, a feasibility study of the range of options and technologies available to *prevent* the spread of aquatic nuisance species between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Basins through the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal and other aquatic pathways

² U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (“USACE”), *Project Management Plan: Great Lakes and Mississippi River Basin Interbasin Feasibility Study 1* (2010), and U.S. Army Engineer Division, Great Lakes and Ohio River (“CELRD”), USACE, *Memorandum for Record* ¶ 2, dated December 15, 2010, available at: http://glmr.is.anl.gov/documents/docs/GLMRIS_prevent_whitepaper.pdf

Produce Results Before 2015

The GLMRIS study takes too long. The Chicago portion of the study is not predicted to be complete until mid-2015, over four years from now. Corps staff indicated in at least one public meeting that this official timeline is optimistic and the actual end date is likely to be even later. The Corps should acknowledge the urgency of finding a permanent solution, narrow the scope of investigation to hydrological separation, condense the timeline and produce final results for the Chicago portion of GLMRIS within 18 months rather than mid-2015.

Further, additional study requirements in GLMRIS, such as a review of all invasive species that could move between the two basins, should not extend the study timeline and should not influence the mandate to “prevent” aquatic invasive species movement between the two basins.

Prioritize Solutions for the Chicago Area

The obvious and critical threat of Asian carp establishing in the Great Lakes is a reason for urgent action. The Corps should study and provide a solution for the CAWS as the first priority, and where needed, act on other aquatic pathways, based on the greatest likelihood of invasion. If necessary, the Corps should consider a phased approach to separating the two watersheds, prioritizing measures to prevent Asian carp migration while still taking steps that will lead to permanent prevention of all movement of aquatic nuisance species in both directions.

Integrate Relevant Research into GLMRIS

In order to accelerate the time frame of the study and save resources, the Corps should not duplicate relevant work that has already been done or is currently being performed. The Corps should integrate the scientific results from the binational risk assessment of Asian carp being facilitated by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, and the identification of hydrological separation options being developed by the Great Lakes Commission and the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Cities Initiative into GLMRIS, after an independent critical review.

Provide for Public Review and Input

The Corps should create an opportunity for regular discussion forums during which the public can interact with technical staff and consultants for detailed questions and answers on the progress of GLMRIS. We recommend forums held at least two times a year, in addition to the requirements of the NEPA process.

Request Hearing in Canada

An Asian carp invasion to the Great Lakes is not just a threat to Americans; it presents a serious threat to the health and welfare of Canadians. Approximately 40 percent of the shoreline of the Great Lakes and 36 percent of their waters lie within the boundaries of Ontario, Canada. The majority of the St. Lawrence River basin is in Québec, Canada. A risk assessment study conducted by the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans concluded that if Asian carp successfully colonize the Great Lakes there is a high probability they would spread across the

Great Lakes basin and possibly even through the prairie provinces.³ The study stresses that such an invasion would have a significant impact on the food web and trophic structure of aquatic systems. Furthermore, the Ontario government has stated that if Asian carp enters the Great Lakes there will be serious adverse impacts on Ontario's recreational and commercial fisheries, which are valued at approximately CAD\$400 million per year.⁴ Environment Canada has made a similar assessment.⁵

In 2010 four not-for profit organizations in Canada requested the U.S. Secretary of State to formally request a public hearing in Canada regarding Asian carp as an international pollution threat, under section 310(a) of the *Clean Water Act*.⁶ A response to this petition was never received. The Department of State should request that Foreign Affairs host a public meeting in Canada where the Corps study team would be invited to hear comments from stakeholders in Canada who are concerned with the impact of an Asian carp invasion to shared international waters.

In summary, our organizations strongly encourage the Corps to adhere to the Congressional authority to "prevent" the spread of aquatic nuisance species between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins and not "reduce the risk"; accelerate the timeline for completion of GLMRIS; prioritize the CAWS portion of GLMRIS; provide for public comment as the study proceeds; and request a hearing in Canada.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and for seriously engaging in this study, which is critical to the health of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River and Mississippi River basins in both the United States and Canada. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer Nalbene, Director, Navigation and Invasive Species for Great Lakes United at phone: (716) 213-0408 or email: jen@glu.org.

³ Department of Fisheries and Ocean Canada (Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat), *Risk Assessment for Asian Carp in Canada*. Department of Fisheries and Ocean Canada., 2009), at 19 – 27.

⁴ Brief of Amicus Curiae Her Majesty The Queen In Right of Ontario in Support of the State of Michigan's Motion For a Preliminary Injunction (31 December 2009).

⁵ Environment Canada, *Invasive Alien Species of the Month* (Environment Canada, undated), available at <<http://www.ec.gc.ca/eee-ias/default.asp?lang=En&n=8E8C2C22-1>>.

⁶ Petition on behalf of the Waterkeepers Alliance, Great Lakes United, Environmental Defence Canada and Georgian Bay Forever to the U.S. Secretary of State and to the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency concerning s. 310 of the *Clean Water Act*. May 2010

Sincerely,

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

RESOLUTION 11 – 2011M

FLOODING IN THE RICHELIEU AND LAKE CHAMPLAIN VALLEYS

WHEREAS, both the Richelieu River and Lake Champlain valleys have experienced record flood levels since the end of April;

WHEREAS, flooding has had a devastating impact on citizens and municipalities, including damage to their property, loss of local ecosystems, contamination of freshwater supplies, loss of farmland, displacement of families, decline in the economic activity for local businesses and tourism as well as increased insurance costs;

WHEREAS, given that the increased frequency and severity of such flooding may well originate from extreme weather caused by global warming;

WHEREAS, the flooding underlines the need for municipalities and other regional levels of government to increase their preparedness and mitigation measures to better meet such challenges such as flooding scenarios, infrastructure vulnerability studies and wetland management;

WHEREAS, the mission of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative to protect and restore the vitality of its waterways and improve the quality of life for the residents of the region through an integrated and binational approach;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative expresses its utmost support and solidarity to the communities, local governments and citizens of the Richelieu and Lake Champlain valleys affected by these floods;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative recognizes its member cities that have helped affected communities, whether it be by raising funds, providing goods and equipment or lending municipal employees;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative calls for other provincial, state and federal levels of government to offer their strong and full support to both the citizens and municipalities affected by these record flooding and commit to full reconstruction and compensation;



BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative calls for increased long-term investments into municipal and other local infrastructures in order to better meet the challenges of increase frequency and intensity of storms.

Signed this 16th day of June, 2011

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Brian McMullan". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Brian McMullan, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Mayor of St. Catharines