



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