



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

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

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