



Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative **2012 Resolutions**

1. Shoreline Invasive Plant Species – *Submitted by the Municipality of Chatham-Kent*
2. Sediment Management – *Submitted by the Municipality of Chatham-Kent*
3. Proposed listing of Silver Lamprey as a species of “special concern” under the Species at Risk Act (SARA) – *Submitted by the Township of Nipigon*
4. Support for Urban and Rural Stormwater Management in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Basin – *Submitted by the Town of Ajax and the Town of Goderich*
5. Sustainable Municipal Water Management
6. Development of Ontario’s Great Lakes Protection Act
7. Keeping Asian Carp Out of the Great Lakes
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9. Shale Gas Exploration, Extraction and Treatment Activities and the Role of Local Government



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

Resolution 1 - 2012M

Shoreline Invasive Plant Species
Submitted by: Municipality of Chatham-Kent

WHEREAS, the prevalence of non-native invasive plants such as Eurasian Milfoil and Phragmites create stands in the water and on shore, which, in most cases, leads to a decrease in biodiversity and a destruction of habitat for other species; and

WHEREAS, these invasive species can inhibit recreational activities such as swimming, boating and fishing, and therefore can have a direct economic impact on local Municipalities; and

WHEREAS, costly practices such as mechanical weed removal and chemical herbicide application have proven ineffective in controlling the rapid spread of infestations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the GLSCI request that Canadian and American and state and provincial governments commit to a concentrated effort to control the spread of these and other invasive plant species that are harming the biodiversity of our shorelines and impacting our local tourism and recreational industries; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that alternatives methods of control, such as the environmentally friendly Milfoil Weevil method, be considered in invasive species control programs, and where appropriate, be applied by provincial conservation officers; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the members of the GLSLCI request that Canadian, American and state and provincial authorities responsible for invasive plant species control share their information and experience with each other and with local municipalities, authorities, First Nations, Metis and Native Americans to learn more about invasive plant control in other parts of the Great Lakes basin, to anticipate the spread of these plants, and to coordinate efforts.

Signed this 27th day of June, 2012

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 - 2012M

Sediment Management

Submitted by: Municipality of Chatham-Kent

WHEREAS, sediment management, including shoreline dredging and drainage on agricultural and other lands, is of major importance to shoreline and agricultural communities along the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence; and

WHEREAS, municipalities recognize the importance of protecting endangered species and aquatic habitat, particularly for spawning and juvenile stage aquatic species development; and

WHEREAS, in both Canada and the United States, multiple agencies, pieces of legislation and approvals are involved in the protection of endangered species, including, in Canada, the Canadian *Species At Risk Act*, the Canadian *Fisheries Act*, the Ontario *Endangered Species Act*, the Quebec *Loi sur les espèces menacées ou vulnérables*; and in the United States the federal *Endangered Species Act*, for which each State may identify further needs for Endangered Species Protection through specific State legislation; and

WHEREAS, the application of multiple pieces of legislation, required approvals and in some cases special studies on local sediment management and drainage projects complicates local Municipalities' ability to conduct business and adds considerable cost and delay; and

WHEREAS, front line staff in these oversight authorities are often under-resourced, and are not able to keep pace with reviewing and approving projects, resulting in significant backlogs in processing applications, long delays and poor communication with local municipal staff; and

WHEREAS, these delays can have the effect of missing the timing window for works that must be undertaken in the spring and summer months, for example important drainage works before agricultural crops are planted and protective measures to protect shorelines during the summer; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of federal and provincial and state authorities to properly resource their frontline staff who are responsible for processing applications for dredging and drainage works in order to both protect aquatic habitat and endangered species and best serve their rural municipal and agricultural clients; and



WHEREAS, the Cities Initiative is aware that the Canadian Federal Government has recently made changes to the Canadian Fisheries Act which are intended to address federal-provincial duplication as it relates to approvals under the Act, to streamline requirements under the Act for small local projects such as agricultural drainage works;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Cities Initiative call on the Federal, Provincial, State and other relevant regional conservation authorities in Canada and the US to conduct a review of the efficacy of their sediment management and drainage review and approvals process, including determining the appropriate level of resourcing required for front line staff to best serve their client base; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the members of the Cities Initiative request that where overlapping pieces of legislation and approvals exist, that these overlapping authorities jointly conduct a review with a view to improving coordination and streamlining their requirements of their municipal and agricultural clients, for example through a one-window approach to sediment management approvals.

Signed this 27th day of June, 2012

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 – 2012M

Proposed listing of Silver Lamprey as a species of “special concern” under the Species at Risk Act (SARA)

Submitted by: Township of Nipigon

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative is a coalition of U.S. and Canadian mayors and other local officials working to advance the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River; and

WHEREAS, one of the primary activities and purposes of the Corporation is to take the lead in bringing together other local governments, state and provincial governments, tribal governments, and the federal governments, along with business, agricultural, and environmental organizations to build and a stronger economy and a healthier ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, “Mayors of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative are a prominent voice in efforts to protect and restore the vitality of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River and improve the quality of life for the residents of the region. Through an integrated approach to environmental, social and economic agendas within their communities, U.S. and Canadian mayors of the Cities Initiative are leading a movement that will sustain our freshwater resources long into the future;” and

WHEREAS, the sport and recreational fishery of the Great lakes is considered to have an economic value of over \$7 billion; and

WHEREAS, the Cities Initiative view the Sea Lamprey, an invasive species, as a serious threat that devastated the fishing industry, wiping out both the recreational and commercial fisheries prior to the application of successful Sea Lamprey control practices, especially the use of lampricides and barriers; and

WHEREAS, the Government of Canada is considering a proposal to list the Silver Lamprey as a species of “special concern” under the Species at Risk Act (SARA); and

WHEREAS, lampricide and barriers have been identified as the top two threats to silver lampreys – as well as the two most effective tactics to control sea lampreys; and

WHEREAS, listing as a “*species of special concern*” requires the writing of a management plan by DFO to explicitly address how the species will be managed to avoid an elevated listing; and



WHEREAS, DFO has recognized that “alternate methods for controlling Sea Lampreys (other than Lampricide and Barriers) are more costly and less effective”; and

WHEREAS, any reduction to current practices and control methods being used with the Sea Lamprey has the potential to have great negative impact on most if not all of the native fish species, putting them all back at risk; and

WHEREAS, if use of lampricides and barriers is denied, Great Lakes fish communities will be severely impaired, recreational and commercial fisheries will be depleted, family fishing traditions will be threatened, fishery dependent businesses will be harmed, tourism and recreation will suffer, and worst of all – these losses may be irrecoverable;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative calls upon the Canadian Government to exercise prudence and due diligence in the development of any management plan – especially one whose provisions may jeopardize use of the only currently effective control tools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that further science based research take place to identify effective alternate strategies in the efforts to combat the invasive Sea Lamprey; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that no actions be taken in the management of the Silver Lamprey that would in any way negatively impact the efforts to control the invasive sea lamprey.

Signed this 27th day of June, 2012

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 – 2012M

Support for Urban and Rural Stormwater Management
in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Basin

Submitted by: the Town of Ajax, ON and the Town of Goderich, ON

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

WHEREAS, the volume and frequency of untreated stormwater discharged to the nearshore can only be expected to increase in the foreseeable future - due to more severe and numerous weather events and climate change, compounded in urban areas by planned growth and intensification - unless more proactive stormwater planning and management is applied and implemented in urban and rural areas; and

WHEREAS, rural stormwater contributes to the flooding and erosion of agricultural and rural land, erosion and pollution along shorelines and development of gullies that directly conduct untreated stormwater into Great Lakes and St. Lawrence waters, and in extreme conditions, damages infrastructure and results in situations that may pose a threat to public safety; and

WHEREAS, rural stormwater management requires different approaches to urban stormwater management that involve increased storage of water on agricultural and rural land and shoreline erosion control through naturalized infrastructure, such as improved drainage and the use of systems that consist of grassed waterways, buffer strips, forest cover, gully erosion control, constructed or restored wetlands and constructed berms; and

WHEREAS, action to effectively manage rural stormwater run-off through the installation of naturalized infrastructure has multiple benefits including reducing non-point source pollution, reducing flooding and erosion, reducing loss of farmland and lakefront property from gully erosion thereby protecting municipal assessment and landowners natural assets(soil/nutrients) along the lakeshore and improving and protecting recreation/tourism along the lakeshore; and

WHEREAS, support for naturalized infrastructure in the management of rural stormwater run-off also helps landowners and municipalities adapt to the impacts of climate change in ways that help to mitigate climate change because natural infrastructure takes carbon out of the atmosphere and locks it up in plant material; and



WHEREAS, a number of stakeholders and local authorities along the Lake Huron Shoreline in Ontario have launched two important initiatives, including a Rural Stormwater Management Model that will result in a better understanding of how stormwater moves and is managed on rural and agricultural land, and will be valuable to farmers and other landowners in guiding their drainage management efforts, and the Lake Huron South East Shores initiative, a multi-stakeholder project with provincial support, to harness local collaboration to address sources of pollution along the shoreline; and

WHEREAS, many urban municipalities in Ontario and Quebec have fallen behind their US counterparts in stormwater management, in large part due to a lack of funding needed to complete municipal urban stormwater management plans and select stormwater infrastructure retrofits/projects; and

WHEREAS, some municipal governments have borne the expense of completing shoreline protection plans and stormwater retrofit studies and now know what projects need to be implemented, but supportive sources of funding from senior governments to implement effective projects and conduct monitoring and analyses to measure improvements in water quality have been lacking; and

WHEREAS, to support ‘climate-ready’, resilient communities, it is imperative that municipal stormwater management plans, retrofits and projects be designed to accommodate predicted impacts of climate change on planned urban areas in terms of both controlling water quantity and improving water quality), using means such as stormwater ponds, end-of-pipe treatment facilities and wetland restoration;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative calls on senior governments in Canada and the United States to commit to financial and technical support for municipalities via the anticipated revised Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, the US Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, the Saint Lawrence Plan, the anticipated renewed Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem and the anticipated Ontario *Great Lakes Protection Act* for the purpose of completing and implementing sustainable urban and rural stormwater management plans, green or naturalized stormwater infrastructure and retrofit projects, and public awareness programs, and supporting monitoring and regularly reporting on water quality to citizens, in the short, medium and long term; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the members of the Cities Initiative respectfully request provincial, state and federal authorities to support municipal efforts to become ‘climate change resilient’ communities, for example, by the sharing of satellite imagery and precipitation data, updating regulatory floodplain models and stormwater management models, downscaling climate change predictive modelling, and supporting infrastructure risk assessments; and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative encourages relevant state, provincial and federal authorities and the Binational Executive Committee of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement to increase support for the development and implementation of naturalized infrastructure to more effectively manage rural stormwater run-off around the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence basin; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that members of the Cities Initiative express their support for the Lake Huron Shoreline Rural Stormwater Management Model and pledge to help in the dissemination of information from the project through webinars and other means to its full membership; and that the members of the Cities Initiative express their support for the creation of a Lake Huron South East Shores municipal group with Cities Initiative representation, to work with the existing Lake Huron South East Shores Executive Committee to advance shoreline restoration in the region.

Signed this 27th day of June, 2012

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian McMullan', written in a cursive style.

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 5 – 2012M

Sustainable Municipal Water Management

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River system is a significant natural resource upon which we rely for our drinking water, the economic health and vitality of the region, energy production, and recreation; and

WHEREAS, despite great strides in protection and restoration efforts over the last thirty years, the system continues to face threats and challenges including from our daily use and management of the water; and

WHEREAS the public is becoming increasingly aware of the importance of responsible water stewardship and reporting publicly on corporate water management performance is quickly becoming as essential as reporting on greenhouse gas emissions among some major corporate water users; and

WHEREAS, municipalities as major water users and water managers are uniquely positioned to lead by example with respect to sustainable water management given their daily interaction with the system through a number of municipal operations and functions, including providing drinking water, managing and overseeing sewer systems and infrastructure, managing and developing shorelines and waterfronts, land use planning, and preparing and adapting their communities for the effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence municipalities recognize the need to ensure these precious water resources are protected, restored, and managed in a sustainable manner to ensure the livelihood and well-being of the citizens of the region as well as the ecosystem of the basin; and

WHEREAS, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence municipalities recognize that progress and improvement can be made with respect to how municipalities, businesses, industry, institutions, and private citizens alike manage our water resources and that it must be a collaborative effort among all who use and benefit from the water; and

WHEREAS, by reporting publicly on their water management performance over time, municipalities will benefit from public feedback and can play an important role in encouraging other water users to reduce their water footprint and more sustainably manage their water use; can inform being more transparent in their reporting of municipal water management; and



WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, through extensive input from member municipalities through the Green CiTTS (Cities Transforming Towards Sustainability) program, developed the *Sustainable Municipal Water Management Principles* which represent outcomes related to sustainable water management that all municipalities can strive towards, including the *Sustainable Municipal Water Management Scorecard* which is a means to report to the public on municipal water management; and

WHEREAS, the *Sustainable Municipal Water Management Principles* are as follows:

1. Water Conservation and Efficiency - *Conserve water to protect and sustain our water supply*
2. Shared Water Stewardship – *Promote shared responsibility for water protection*
3. Shoreline and Waterways Restoration – *Protect and restore healthy, natural shorelines and waterways*
4. Water Pollution Prevention – *Prevent the introduction of harmful substances into Great Lakes and St. Lawrence tributaries*
5. Water Protection Planning - *Integrate water protection and ecological features and functions into municipal and regional watershed planning*
6. Water Preparedness for Climate Change - *Prepare for water-related impacts triggered by climate change*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative endorse the *Sustainable Municipal Water Management Principles* as an important declaration and measure of municipal water management performance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that members of the Cities Initiative will endeavor to continuously improve their performance in each of the six areas identified in the principles, recognizing that each municipality is beginning at a different stage in each of the six areas and will may make progress at varying rates; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that members of the Cities Initiative will use the *Sustainable Municipal Water Management Scorecard* and/or incorporate elements of it into their ongoing reporting, in order to report publicly on their progress towards achieving *Sustainable Municipal Water Management Principles*, as appropriate.

Signed this 27th day of June, 2012

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 – 2012M

Development of Ontario's Great Lakes Protection Act

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence are the world's largest supply of freshwater, the source of drinking water to over 40 million people, and provide important economic, environmental and social benefits to communities; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence are facing new challenges from increased urbanisation, population growth, climate change and invasive species, which add to the stress facing the Lakes; and Municipalities are on the front line of change, with increasing bills and complaints from basement flooding, erosion around critical roads and bridges, huge sudden volumes of stormwater, buildup of algae, new invasive plants taking over waterfronts, lower lake levels exposing water intake pipes and increasing dredging demands; and

WHEREAS, leadership, coordination and sustained, dedicated funding at all levels of government is needed to protect and restore the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, such as the Canada-US Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, the US Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, the St. Lawrence Plan and the Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, municipalities and local governments invest over \$15 billion a year in the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence; and

WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario is considering new legislation to protect the Great Lakes, and many Mayors have been involved in discussions and supportive of its early development;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Cities Initiative endorse the principle that leadership, coordination and sustained and dedicated funding is needed at all levels of government to protect and restore the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, including direct municipal involvement and consultation in the development of commitments and in their implementation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the members of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative fully support the development and implementation of a Great Lakes Protection Act and associated regulations by the Government of Ontario, and that members call on the Government of Ontario to formally recognise municipalities as founding partners in the efforts to protect the nearshore and the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence; and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the members of the Cities Initiative support increased funding for local projects as part of a Great Lakes Protection Act, including support for such initiatives as waterfront redevelopment, infrastructure (including green infrastructure), invasive species management, beaches, recreational trails and other waterfront improvements; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative continues to work collaboratively with the Government of Ontario, through the Memorandum of Cooperation, to help improve waterfronts and shorelines, reduce nuisance and toxic algae, reduce stormwater to the lakes, increase public awareness and outreach, work in an integrated manner to improve nearshore water quality, and explore ways to further integrate water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure planning and operations where appropriate.

Signed this 27th day of June, 2012

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian McMullan".

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 – 2012M

Keeping Asian Carp Out of the Great Lakes

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence represent the largest body of surface fresh water in the world and are a vibrant, diverse ecosystem that is critically important to the economic well-being and quality of life of the Canadian and U.S. populations in the basin; and

WHEREAS, over 180 invasive species have entered the ecosystem over the years and caused widespread damage and disruption to the natural balance of the system, as well as significant economic damage; and

WHEREAS, one of the most serious threats ever presented by invasive species currently comes from Asian carp, including silver, bighead, and black varieties; and

WHEREAS, these varieties of carp were introduced to the southern United States for use in fish farms for algae control in the 1970's and escaped into the Mississippi River system as a result of floods and other means over the years; and

WHEREAS, the invasive carp have migrated northward through the Mississippi River system over the years to a point where they are as far north as Wisconsin and Minnesota, and into Indiana and Ohio, as well; and

WHEREAS, the invasive carp have established dominant populations in many places in the river systems, reducing significantly or eliminating populations of the more desirable species of fish because of their voracious food consumption and prolific reproduction; and

WHEREAS, the invasive carp are threatening to enter the Great Lakes at a number of points across the basin, but none appear to present as great a threat as the Illinois River and Chicago Area Waterway System; and

WHEREAS, many federal, state, provincial, and local government agencies in the United States and Canada have worked diligently and expended tens of millions of dollars over the past 10 years on a variety of projects to stop the migration of the invasive carp and keep them out of the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers constructed and currently operates an electric barrier near Romeoville Illinois on the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal that seems to have helped slow or stop the movement of the invasive carp toward Lake Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is conducting a multiyear, comprehensive study across the U.S. side of the Great Lakes basin called the "Great Lakes and



Mississippi River Interbasin Study” (GLMRIS) that examines 19 separate locations where invasive carp could cross from the Mississippi River Basin to the Great Lakes Basin, and considers a large number of potential ways to stop the further migration; and

WHEREAS, including the invasive carp, there are 39 invasive species in the two basins that present a threat to cross over into the other basin in the near future; and

WHEREAS, once an invasive species establishes itself in an ecosystem, it is exceedingly difficult to eradicate it, and it often inflicts serious damage on the ecosystem and imposes major costs in the form of efforts to control it; and

WHEREAS, invasive species have already inflicted hundreds of millions in damage across the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, and invasive carp pose a serious threat to the \$7 billion sport and commercial fishery that support the economy and help define the culture of the entire region; and

WHEREAS, Canadian and U.S. citizens across the basin have expressed serious concern about the invasive carp and other invasive species, and are demanding prompt action; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities initiative has taken the position by resolution that physical separation of the Mississippi River and Great Lakes basins in the Chicago Area Waterway System provides the most effective means of keeping the invasive carp from reaching Lake Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative and Great Lakes Commission completed a report entitled “Restoring the Natural Divide” on January 31, 2012 that established the feasibility of physical separation of the two basins in the Chicago Area Waterway System that would also maintain or enhance water quality, flood control, and transportation in the System;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the invasive carp in the Mississippi River system pose one of the greatest threats to the integrity and well-being of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence ecosystem, including the 40 million Canadians and Americans who live there; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that preventing the invasive carp from entering the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence ecosystem needs to be approached with the greatest sense of urgency by all those responsible for dealing with this matter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that physical separation is the most effective way to keep invasive carp from entering Lake Michigan through the Chicago Area Waterway System, and such barriers would also prevent the movement of many other invasive species from one basin to the other; and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that physical separation is feasible and can be done in a way that maintains or enhances water quality, flood control, and transportation in the system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should take all necessary steps accelerate its process to complete its work on the Chicago Area Waterway System portion of the study no later than December 2013, and give fair and thorough consideration to the physical separation option; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and all cooperating U.S. and Canadian agencies continue operation of the electric barrier, intensive commercial fishing, and other methods to keep the invasive carp out of the Great Lakes while a long term solution is found and implemented; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that additional work should be undertaken immediately to develop more details of the “Restoring the Natural Divide,” report, with a special emphasis on ways to finance the necessary infrastructure investments; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that once a preferred option is identified, all parties should move forward to implement the solution in an expedited fashion with the greatest sense of urgency.

Signed this 27th day of June, 2012

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian McMullan".

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 – 2012M

Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement

WHEREAS, the Canadian and U.S. federal governments are nearing the end of their renegotiation of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (WQA), the principal agreement guiding Canadian and US collaboration for Great Lakes protection; and

WHEREAS, signing of the agreement by the two Parties could occur as early as mid-April. It is expected no later than the end of June, as that is when all attention on the US side will be directed to their fall Federal election; and

WHEREAS, a Cities Initiative representative participated on an Environment Canada WQA Advisory Panel over the last two years, and has provided comment on confidential information presented to the panel by Environment Canada staff throughout the negotiations; and

WHEREAS, based on public consultations to date, it is known that the agreement covers similar issues as previous versions, through its annexes on toxics, areas of concern, lake-wide areas management plans, nutrients, habitat and species, groundwater, and maritime shipping pollution from vessels, research and science. In addition, several new annexes are expected, including ones on aquatic invasive species, and climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Cities Initiative has pushed hard for a formal role for municipalities within the governance structure for the implementation of the agreement. Currently, the Cities Initiative is invited as an observer to the Canada-US Binational Executive Committee that oversees the implementation of the agreement for the two Parties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Cities Initiative welcome the impending signing of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement between Canada and the United States; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative continue to seek a direct, formal role in the governance of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, to provide cities with a strong voice at the WQA table, and is ready to meet with the Parties to discuss how to achieve this objective; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that both parties to the agreement, cooperating state, provincial, tribal, first nation, and local governments, along with the stakeholder community, put



strong emphasis and effort on full, effective, appropriately resourced and timely implementation of the WQA.

Signed this 27th day of June, 2012

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



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

Resolution 9 – 2012M

Shale Gas Exploration, Extraction and Treatment Activities and the Role of Local Government

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River are the largest freshwater ecosystem in the world, providing drinking water to over 40 million people and serving as the economic base for much of Canada and the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence basin is a complex and fragile ecosystem, encompassing a wide range of human and natural habitat and activities; and

WHEREAS, shale gas activities, whether it be exploration, extraction or treatment, have increased significantly over the past few years across the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River basin, representing potential local investments, jobs creation and additional revenues from royalties and taxes; and

WHEREAS, there are current uncertainties about the environmental risks to water, air and soil associated with shale gas exploration, extraction and treatment, as well as the financial impacts on municipalities; and

WHEREAS, proper casing and cementing of oil and gas wells is very important to protect water supplies and improve public safety, as well as the fact that there is currently little or no consistency between jurisdictions (Federal, Provincial, State) in regard to casing and cementing standards; and

WHEREAS, concerns persistent over the impacts of hydrofracking fluids on aquifers and shale gas' contribution to greenhouse gas emissions, and the use of undisclosed chemical constituents in several jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the capability of municipal treatment plants to efficiently and safely process wastewater from the fracking process is questioned in some cases; and

WHEREAS, municipalities have both the duty and obligation to protect the health, safety, and welfare of their residents, especially in providing safe drinking water;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative calls on state, provincial and federal governments to provide integrated, effective and responsible management



of the shale gas industry, which will ensure the protection of both the environment and residents, as well as respect the role and authority of municipalities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative calls for utmost transparency and disclosure from both state, provincial and federal governments and the shale gas industry, as well as continued information exchange with municipalities throughout all development stages; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative calls for the conduct of independent studies on the environmental, social and economic impact of shale gas exploration, extraction and treatment activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative calls for consistency between any new legislation concerning shale gas exploration, extraction and treatment activities, and existing laws and regulations related to the environment, sustainable development and urban planning; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative calls on state, provincial and federal governments to allow municipalities to require public hearings on the local impacts of shale gas industry, including public safety issues and risks, preventative measures and response plans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative requests state, provincial and federal governments to require companies engaged in shale gas extraction to provide the list of chemicals used, as well as details of their storage, handling, and disposal; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative asks for the creation of mitigation and compensation funds for municipalities, financed by fees paid by the shale gas industry, in the event of negative impacts within their territory as a result of exploration, extraction or treatment activities.

Signed this 27th day of June, 2012

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian McMullan".

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