



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

**RESOLUTION 7 – 2015M**

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING CITY OF MISSISSAUGA COUNCIL RESOLUTION**  
**ON PROTECTION AND RESTORATION OF WETLAND HABITATS WITHIN THE**  
**GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE BASIN**

**Submitted by the City of Mississauga**

**WHEREAS**, the attached City of Mississauga Council resolution on the protection and restoration of wetland habitats was proposed and passed on April 29, 2015 by the City's Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Mississauga submitted the resolution to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative for consideration as part of the 2015 call for resolutions.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative endorses the City of Mississauga's resolution, specifically:

1. Supporting the protection and restoration of wetland habitats within the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River basin, particularly for species of conservation concern; and
2. Calling on state, provincial and federal governments to support increased funding for wetland restoration and acquisition to secure high priority lands in perpetuity within the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River basin and particularly imperiled coastal wetland habitats.

Signed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2015

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John Dickert, Chair  
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative  
Mayor of Racine



RESOLUTION 0106-2015  
adopted by the Council of  
The Corporation of the City of Mississauga  
at its meeting on April 29, 2015

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0106-2015 Moved by: Jim Tovey Seconded by: Nando Iannicca

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River make up the largest fresh surface water on earth or about 18% of the world's total;

AND WHEREAS, the Great Lakes Basin supports 33 million people, and contributes \$180 billion to Canada-US trade;

AND WHEREAS, the Great Lakes support the \$100 million commercial fishing industry and \$350 million recreational fishing industry;

AND WHEREAS, more than 50% of Great Lakes coastal wetlands have been lost as a result of urban and agricultural land uses;

AND WHEREAS, wetlands are among the most productive and valuable ecosystems in the world;

AND WHEREAS, wetlands provide a number of vital ecosystem services to society, including the maintenance of water quality, flood, drought, and erosion control, commercial and recreational fishing and hunting and climate regulation;

AND WHEREAS, the effects of climate change and other stressors including nutrient and sediment loading, fragmentation, invasive species, shoreline alteration, and water level controls continue to affect the resilience of Great Lakes aquatic and terrestrial habitats;

AND WHEREAS, the number of invasive species in the Great Lakes is increasing and that invasive species reduce coastal wetland diversity and resilience, and result in economic impacts;

AND WHEREAS, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative mayors have contributed directly to the development of (bi)national and state/provincial policy making including Canada – Ontario Agreement, Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, Lakewide Management Plans, Biodiversity Conservation Strategies, the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative;

AND WHEREAS, the mayors of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative concur that significant progress has been made in advancing wetland protection and restoration of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River, stressors remain and the need for focused and strong municipal leadership persists;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative support the protection and restoration of wetland habitats within the Great Lakes basin, particularly for species of conservation concern; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence cities Initiative calls on the provincial, state and federal governments to support increased funding for wetland restoration and acquisition to secure high priority lands in perpetuity within the Great Lakes basin and particularly imperiled coastal wetland habitats.

Carried