



2016 Annual Meeting and Conference
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
March 17, 2016

Hotel and Conference Center Location: <https://goo.gl/ktkcA5>

TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016

3:00 pm – 9:00 pm Registration – *Sheraton at the Falls Hotel Foyer*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2016-MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

8:00 am – 5:00 pm Registration – *Conference Center Foyer – Enter on Old Falls Street*

9:00am Board Meeting – *Conference Center Room TBD*

11:30 am Lunch- *Conference Center Room TBD (Board and Staff)*

12:30 pm Regional Meetings
Ontario – *Conference Center Cascade Ballroom*
United States – *Conference Center Room TBD*
Québec – *Conference Center Room TBD*

1:45 pm Members Meeting – *Conference Center Cascade Ballroom*

5:00 pm Break

6:30 pm Departure for Reception – *Main Hotel Entrance (3rd St.)*

7:00-10:00 pm Members' Reception and Dinner – *Top of the Falls Restaurant*
(location: <https://goo.gl/MpnMuU>)

10:00pm Niagara Falls Fireworks (buses will start running early for those wishing to return to the hotel before the fireworks. Buses will run until 10:30 after the fireworks display.)



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THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2016

All Thursday activities to take place at the Conference and Event Center Niagara Falls (Enter from Old Falls Street)

7:30 am – 5:00 pm Registration- *Grand Foyer (Enter from Old Falls Street)*

7:30 am Breakfast – *Cascade Ballroom*

8:15 am Opening Ceremony – *All Thursday activities in Cascade Ballroom*

9:00 am Keynote Speaker (invited)
The Honorable Andrew Cuomo, Governor, State of New York
The Honorable Charles Schumer, Senator, New York
The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand, Senator, New York
The Honourable Vance Badawey, MP, Niagara Centre
Dr. Dianne Saxe, Environmental Commissioner, Province of Ontario

9:45 am Break

10:00 am Panel Session 1
Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation and Innovation
This session will discuss how Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities are working to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, tools to assess vulnerability and innovation in renewable energy.

11:15 am Panel Session 2
Lake Erie Algae Updates, Programs and Impacts on Municipalities
This session explores how the new federal, state and provincial targets for nutrients will impact municipalities and Cities Initiative activities with industry stakeholders, agricultural partners and others to reduce nutrient runoff to Lake Erie.

12:30 pm Lunch

12:45 pm Lunch speaker

1:15 pm Break



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1:30 pm

Panel Session 3

Municipal Green Urbanism and Sustainability Initiatives

Great Lakes and St. Lawrence municipalities are leaders in new solutions to promote and advance sustainability of our water resources. This session will showcase innovative initiatives, funding mechanisms and key partnerships.

2:45 pm

Break

3:00 pm

Keynote Speaker

3:45 pm

Panel Session 4

Safe Drinking Water in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Basin

In light of the Flint, MI tragedy and the Waukesha water diversion application, this session proposes solutions and insight to ensure the future of safe, abundant, clean and fairly-priced water for the millions of Great Lakes and St. Lawrence residents.

5:00 pm

Break

6:00 pm

Cocktail – *Cataract Foyer (Enter on Old Falls Street)*

7:00 pm

Gala Dinner – *Cascade Ballroom*



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FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 2016

- 7:30 am Breakfast – *Conference Center, Cascade Ballroom*
- 8:30 am NASA –DEVELOP Presentation – Great Lakes Ecological Forecasting – Phragmites Habitat
- 9:30 am Panel Session 5
Control Solutions for Phragmites
More than ever, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities are fighting to control non-native Phragmites, invasive reeds that take over wetlands and cause threats to natural habitats. This session will explore successful control solutions from across the basin.
- 10:00 am Presentation from 2017 host – Montréal, QC
- 10:15 am Closing ceremony
- 10:30 am Departure for Educational Tours – *Main Entrance (3rd St.)*
- 3 tour options, ending at noon, 1pm or 2pm
- i. Niagara Power Tour: visit to Power Vista and museum in Lewiston, visit to the site of the former power plant that slid in the river
 - ii. Green urbanism tour: visit to the Robert Moses Parkway project and its effects on urban renewal in downtown Niagara Falls
 - iii. The Falls tour: Maid of the Mist tour and/or Cave of the Winds attraction
- 12:00-2:00 pm Return to hotel