



## **The Future of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence on the Agenda for Montréal's 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

*Mayors from 8 states and 2 provinces to meet June 14-16*

Montréal, January 13, 2017 – Today, mayors of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative's Board of Directors (Cities Initiative) met in Montréal to further strengthen their strategy to address water issues and to prepare the next important mayors' gathering during the Montréal's 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, June 14-16, 2017.

"Water is a key component of Montréal's geography and history; the River and the archipelago are crucial to our City's success. More than ever, mayors show leadership on important water issues in all of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence region", said Cities Initiative chair and Montréal Mayor Denis Coderre. The Cities Initiative's 2017 Annual Meeting and Conference will be the premier event to gather municipal leaders from 8 U.S. states and two Canadian provinces that border the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River. The conference segment of the event will focus on strategic partnerships between different regional stakeholders that specialize in Great Lakes and St. Lawrence integrated management, restoration and protection. All stakeholders are invited to visit <http://glsccities.org/events/annual-meeting/montreal-2017/> for more information and to register.

In addition to its regular administrative business, the Cities Initiative's board of directors discussed many regional issues including the challenge to the Waukesha water diversion approval, excessive nutrient runoff in Lake Erie and Lac. St-Pierre, plastic pollution, invasive species and pipelines, especially Enbridge's Line 5 and TransCanada's Energy East.

*The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative is a binational coalition of over 128 U.S. and Canadian mayors and local officials working to advance the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River. Learn more at [glsccities.org](http://glsccities.org).*

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