



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

RESOLUTION 04 – 2017M

MARITIME INDUSTRY

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River are one of the largest sources of surface fresh water in the world and provide drinking water for over 40 million Americans and Canadians; and

WHEREAS, the eight states in the United States and the two Canadian provinces along the shores of the resource, if a single country, would represent the third largest economy in the world; and

WHEREAS, a significant factor in creating and sustaining that economy is commercial waterborne transportation; and,

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway has been an important part of the commercial navigation system; and

WHEREAS, many of the locks and other maritime infrastructure that are critically important to the system were built over 50 years ago and are in need of major investment; and

WHEREAS, the locks at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan are especially important to maritime commerce and the regional economy; and

WHEREAS, many harbors along the shores of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River need continuing maintenance, dredging, and repairs; and

WHEREAS, shipping has brought many economic and environmental benefits to the region, it has also historically played a role in the introduction and spread of invasive species which have severely disrupted the ecological balance of the water resource and caused extensive economic and environmental damage; and

WHEREAS, major strides have been made in reducing the role of shipping in introducing and spreading aquatic invasive species, including restrictions that are in place in Canada and the United States to limit their introduction and spread in the waterways.



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative supports U.S. funding to construct a new lock at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative supports full expenditure of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund to the purposes for which it was created; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the commercial navigation companies operating on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River take all necessary steps to comply with regulations designed to keep invasive species out of the waterways; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all dredging of harbors and channels be done in an environmentally sound manner; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative endorses the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Maritime Transportation Strategy and strongly encourages the states and provinces to include local governments as full partners in implementation of the strategy; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative fully endorses the Québec Government's Maritime Strategy for the St. Lawrence River and strongly encourages the Province to include local governments as full partners in the implementation of the strategy.

Signed this 14th day of June 2017

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Coderre', written over a horizontal line.

Denis Coderre, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Mayor, City of Montréal