



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

**RESOLUTION 07 – 2017**

**COMMITMENT TO PUBLICALLY MANAGED WATER SERVICE**

**Submitted by: City of Montreal**

**WHEREAS**, in 2010 the United Nations General Assembly through Resolution A/RES/64/292 declared safe and clean drinking water and sanitation a human right essential to the full enjoyment of life and all other human rights; and

**WHEREAS**, water services are essential to social and economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, access to water services is an essential right linked to individuals' security, to protect their belongings, both for public security and fire protection; and

**WHEREAS**, water is generally perceived as a common resource, vital to life and to human dignity; and

**WHEREAS**, water is not a commodity but a heritage worth protecting and cherishing; and

**WHEREAS**, one can observe a clear tendency to reestablish public management of water services where they had been previously privatized; and

**WHEREAS**, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence cities invest a great deal of effort to create a culture of water and to promote it and they have the moral responsibility to ensure the long-term sustainability of the water resource; and

**WHEREAS**, providing water services is primarily the responsibility of local public authorities, and they are the closest to citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities are making important investments to maintain and upgrade their water infrastructure in the context of sustainable urban development; and

**WHEREAS**, public governance of water services is the best way to ensure long term planning along with direct and transparent management of essential infrastructure; and



**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that as member cities of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative we commit to publically and sustainably manage our Great Lakes and St. Lawrence water resources; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that we will encourage municipalities to promote the public management of water services in order to deliver efficient and affordable water services that answer to all the needs of the community.

Signed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of June 2017

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

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