



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

RESOLUTION 01 – 2017M

RESTRICTING THE USE OF COAL TAR SEALANTS IN THE GREAT LAKES
AND ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BASIN

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River provide drinking water to more than 48 million Canadian and U.S. citizens, and the freshwater system, including its rivers, streams and tributaries, supports significant ecosystems and fisheries that are dependent upon good water quality; and

WHEREAS, runoff from permeable surfaces is a well know vector for pollutants entering our waterways, particularly after rain events; and

WHEREAS, paved concrete or asphalt surfaces such as driveways, parking lots, and playgrounds are fixtures in municipalities, and may be coated with a sealcoat, sealant, or driveway sealer for aesthetic purposes or to increase the lifespan of the surface containing refined coal tar, known as coal tar based sealcoat; and

WHEREAS, coal tar based sealcoat is made with coal tar pitch, which results from the process of coking coal, and coal tar pitch is a group 1 human carcinogen and contains polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). PAHs are persistent organic compounds, several of which are known or probable human carcinogens; and

WHEREAS, coal tar based sealcoats contains PAH concentrations about 1000 times higher than those in asphalt based sealcoat (Mahler et al, Coal-tar Based Pavement Sealcoats and PAHs: Implications for the Environment, Human Health, and Stormwater Management <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3308201/>); and

WHEREAS, over time, coal tar based sealcoats are eroded by use and small particles are released onto the surface and even into the air, and can be tracked into homes and washed away in stormwater; and

WHEREAS, PAH concentrations in urban waterways have been documented at high levels, as studies conducted by the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), the US Geologic Survey, and the municipalities of Austin, TX, Milwaukee, WI, DuPage County, IL and elsewhere have demonstrated; and



WHEREAS, US EPA has taken initial steps to address coal tar sealants as the result of the settlement of a lawsuit filed by a coalition of national environmental organizations; US EPA is committed to propose in 2019 that industrial facilities that use coal tar sealants should be ineligible for coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) industrial stormwater multi-sector general permit, and either must stop use of coal tar sealants or apply for an individual NPDES permit (source: http://waterkeeper.org/app/uploads/2016/08/Waterkeeper_Alliance_Settlement_Agreement_08162016-EPA-MSGP.pdf); and

WHEREAS, Environment and Climate Change Canada and Health Canada, pursuant to sections 68 and 74 of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, have conducted a draft screening assessment of coal tars and their distillates, and preliminarily determined they do present a risk to human health and the environment, and if the final assessment concurs, then the Government of Canada proposes further action on coal tar sealants; and

WHEREAS, driven by evidence of high levels of PAHs in urban waterways, the primary source of which is surfaces paved with coal tar sealants, and concern for human and environmental health given the known and potential risks of PAHs, a number of municipalities throughout the United States have already taken action to ban the use of coal tar sealants, including Milwaukee, WI and Highland Park, IL, two Cities Initiative members; and the states of Washington and Minnesota have similarly taken action; and legislation is under consideration in a number of other states including Illinois; and

WHEREAS, alternatives to coal tar sealants for municipalities and residents exist and are comparable in cost and performance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative encourages US EPA and Environment and Climate Change Canada and Health Canada to continue their evaluations of coal tar sealants and take the necessary actions at the federal level to ensure protection of human health and our waterways from harmful pollution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative calls on the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec and the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin to explore actions that can be taken at the provincial and state levels to ensure human health and environmental protection from coal tar sealants; and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative encourages its member municipalities to become educated on the issue of coal tar sealants and consider implementing a local ordinance or ban on the use of coal tar sealants within their respective municipalities; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative will form a working group to support its members as they consider the issue of coal tar sealants and actions they can take to address this pollution source and educate citizens on its potential risks.

Signed this 14th 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



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

RESOLUTION 02 – 2017M

AGING OIL PIPELINES AND LINE 5

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River are the largest freshwater ecosystem in the world, providing drinking water to more than 48 million people and serving as the economic base for much of Canada and the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence basin is a complex and fragile ecosystem, encompassing a wide range of human and natural habitat and activities; and

WHEREAS, crude oil and its derivatives are a key component of the energy sources used in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Region and all over North America; and

WHEREAS, crude oil needs to be transported from the production regions in the Western part of North America to industrial sites in the Midwest, Northeast and Southeast in order to be refined, transformed and distributed; and

WHEREAS, pipelines are a safer and more cost effective way to transport oil, gasoline, and other petroleum products than rail, trucks, or boats; and

WHEREAS, over fifty percent of U.S. oil and gas pipelines are more than fifty years old and were built prior to current construction and safety standards according to the Department of Energy's Quadrennial Energy Review; and

WHEREAS, the Enbridge Energy Line 5 pipeline is a set of twin, 64-year-old pipelines carrying 23 million gallons light crude oil and natural gas liquids daily under the Straits of Mackinac; and

WHEREAS, the currents in the Straits of Mackinac at peak volumetric transport can be more than 10 times greater than the flow of Niagara Falls, and according to a 2014 University of Michigan study are the "worst possible place" for an oil spill in the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the state of Michigan granted Enbridge an easement to operate Line 5 under the Straits in 1953, requiring the pipeline be not less than 0.812 inches thick, but some areas are up to 41 percent thinner than required due to milling defects in the original construction; and



WHEREAS, the easement requires supportive anchors at least every 75 feet, but inspections have repeatedly found unsupported spans exceeding this length, which puts cumulative stress on the pipeline and its welds over the long term; and

WHEREAS, Line 5 is an example of the threat posed by aging pipelines, the lack of transparency around maintenance, and the lack of accountability around safety and emergency preparedness within the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence basin that can cause serious harm to our freshwater resources and public safety and wellbeing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative calls on oil pipeline operators in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence basin to maintain public transparency and accountability for all pipelines as well as robust safety, maintenance and emergency preparedness in accordance with state and federal standards; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative encourage oil pipeline operators in the basin to ensure structural and operational integrity of oil pipelines to protect the health and safety of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River and the people of the region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the release of the Michigan Pipeline Safety Advisory Board's forthcoming, independent reports on Line 5, the Cities Initiative encourages Enbridge to commit to compliance with the reports' recommendations by the Cities Initiative's 2018 Annual Meeting or the Cities Initiative will consider calling for halted operations of Line 5; and

AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the Michigan Governor and the Michigan Attorney General, the Michigan Pipeline Safety Advisory Board, the US Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Administration and the National Energy Board.

Signed this 14th day of June 2017

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



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

RESOLUTION 03 – 2017M

GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE FEDERAL RESTORATION FUNDING

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence system is one of the largest sources of fresh water in the world and a natural resource treasure in North America shared by the United States and Canada; and

WHEREAS, this freshwater resource provides drinking water to more than 48 million Canadians and Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River system is the foundation for the \$5.8 trillion USD economy of eight U.S. states and two Canadian provinces and would have the third largest economy in the world if the basin were considered a country; and

WHEREAS, the waters were contaminated over many years in both countries from industrial, agricultural, and municipal sources of pollution; and

WHEREAS, the United States and Canada entered the Boundary Waters Treaty in 1909 and the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement in 1972, with amendments in 1978, 1987, and 2012 to address the problems in the Great Lakes, and to protect and preserve them; and

WHEREAS, significant progress has been made over almost 50 years in restoring and protecting the resource, examples of which include delisting 7 Areas of Concern, the most toxic and polluted areas which are remnants of the industrial history of the region; and

WHEREAS, this progress has been the result of significant public and private sector investment over the years; and

WHEREAS, local governments in Canada and the United States have invested over \$15 billion annually in protection and restoration efforts according to [the 2008 Local Investment in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence study](#); and



WHEREAS, one of the most significant sources of public investment from the United States at the federal level recently has been the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative which has made over \$2 billion available for work over the past seven years; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has proposed eliminating all of the funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative in 2017-2018; and

WHEREAS, federal investment programs like the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative in the U.S. are critical to leveraging local, state and private investment; and

WHEREAS, while President Trump's Administration has justified eliminating the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative by placing the responsibility in state and local hands, we maintain that the protection and restoration of this international freshwater treasure is a shared responsibility with the federal government, and in fact, the U.S. and Canadian federal governments have major responsibilities set out in the international agreements that govern the management of the resource; and

WHEREAS, Canada has made significant investments in water infrastructure and cleanup of toxic hot spots over the years but the level of federal investment has not matched the significance of the resource and magnitude of the challenges; and

WHEREAS, the Canadian budget for 2017-2018 includes \$70.5 million CAD over 5 years to protect freshwater resources including the Great Lakes, and \$43.8 million CAD over 5 years for efforts to address aquatic invasive species in waterways like the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, but still has no single dedicated line item for the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River at the magnitude necessary; and

WHEREAS, these budgets come nowhere near addressing the needs of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence and will slow down or stop the restoration efforts and economic recovery in the region; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative in the U.S. would abruptly halt critical protection and restoration efforts around the clean-up of toxic hot spots, preventing Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River System, addressing polluted runoff that causes toxic algal blooms, and much more; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative from the U.S. federal budget threatens not just the source of drinking water for more than 48 million U.S. and Canadian citizens, but jeopardizes a \$7 billion fishery, transportation for



industry and agriculture, quality habitat for fish and wildlife, and much more, all of which rely on clean, navigable water; and

WHEREAS, elimination of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative in the U.S. federal budget, and the lack of significant dedicated funding in the Canadian federal budget signifies a shirking of responsibility by the federal governments of the U.S. and Canada in protecting the water we drink, the fish we eat, and the beaches and waters we play and work in and around; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative commends the bipartisan support the Great Lakes have received in the U.S. over the years by the U.S. Congressional Great Lakes Task Force.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative calls on the Congress of the United States to appropriate the full \$300 million authorized for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative in the 2017-2018 budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative encourages the Canadian Federal Government to work collaboratively with the provinces, local governments, First Nations and Metis, and other Great Lakes and St. Lawrence stakeholders to develop a common vision for the Great Lakes St. Lawrence ecosystem and economy, and an investment strategy to support this common vision; this would include an increase in funding to support economic and environmental infrastructure and better coordination of these investments at all levels of government; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that local governments continue the investments they are making to protect and restore the resource at the levels they have in the past; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that state and provincial governments also recognize the importance of the resource in their budgets; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States, the Prime Minister of Canada, the Governors of the eight Great Lakes States, the Premiers of Quebec and Ontario, the Canadian Minister of Environment and Climate Change, and the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.



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



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

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



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

RESOLUTION 05 – 2017M

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE DESIGNATION OF THE NOAA
WISCONSIN-LAKE MICHIGAN NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Submitted by: Cities of Manitowoc, Port Washington and Sheboygan

WHEREAS, Wisconsin’s Great Lakes contain some of the Nation’s most important natural, cultural, and recreational resources; and

WHEREAS, in 2014 Governor Walker submitted a successful sanctuary nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on behalf of the State of Wisconsin and the coastal communities in the proposed sanctuary; and

WHEREAS, in January 2017, based on the sanctuary nomination, NOAA proposed designation of the 1,075 square-mile Wisconsin-Lake Michigan National Marine Sanctuary which would protect 37 historic shipwrecks and related underwater heritage sites. Eighteen of the sites are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and archival research indicates that as many as 80 shipwrecks are yet to be discovered; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin and local communities have invested in documenting, preserving, and celebrating Wisconsin’s rich maritime heritage;

WHEREAS, NOAA’s National Marine Sanctuary System was established in 1972, and today the program serves as the trustee for a system of 13 national marine sanctuaries and two national monuments encompassing more than 600,000 square miles of ocean and Great Lakes waters; and

WHEREAS, national marine sanctuaries draw regional, national and international tourism, impact regional and local economies, and are featured and promoted in national magazines, journals, books, and films; and

WHEREAS, national marine sanctuaries support a wide variety of educational programs to share the history of Great Lakes shipwrecks with the public and promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM); and



WHEREAS, national marine sanctuaries protect nationally significant resources, such as Wisconsin’s Great Lakes shipwrecks; and support research and documentation to better understand, protect, and increase public appreciation and access to the well-preserved shipwrecks; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Wisconsin-Lake Michigan National Marine Sanctuary would leverage the investment made by the State and Mid-Lake Michigan harbor towns to enhance tourism as a key component of economic development in the State and this region; and

WHEREAS, local resources and infrastructure may be used in partnership with NOAA to complement and enhance a national marine sanctuary in the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative endorses and strongly supports the designation of the “Lake Michigan - Wisconsin National Marine Sanctuary” on behalf of the State of Wisconsin; the Cities of Two Rivers, Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Port Washington and Mequon; and Manitowoc, Sheboygan, and Ozaukee Counties currently under consideration by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Signed this 14th day of June 2017

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



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

RESOLUTION 06 – 2017M

ACTION ON PHARMACEUTICALS AND PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS
(PPCP) POLLUTION IN THE GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE

Submitted by: City of Mississauga

WHEREAS, Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCPs) including prescription drugs, over the counter drugs, veterinary drugs, nutritional supplements, vitamins, cosmetics, lotions and sunscreens, fragrances, insect repellents and common chemicals such as household cleaners have a direct adverse impact on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence aquatic ecosystem, drinking water and water quality ; and

WHEREAS, PPCPs can affect development, metabolism, spawning and behavior of aquatic organisms; and

WHEREAS, more than 48 million people in the U.S. and Canada get their drinking water from the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River system; and

WHEREAS, “treated wastewaters in the United States contain detectable quantities of surfactants, antibiotics, and other types of antimicrobial chemicals contained in pharmaceutical and personal-care products (PPCPs) that are released into stream ecosystems.” (Wilson et al. 2003); and

WHEREAS, the chemical compounds of pharmaceuticals and personal care products are not currently regulated in Ontario or Quebec drinking water nor are there USEPA water quality/criteria or standards for the majority of these chemicals; and

WHEREAS, the ability to remove PPCPs from wastewater treatment plants is dependent on the chemical under investigation; and

WHEREAS, “it is unclear which treatments are most effective and whether compounds are destroyed or transformed to degradation products” (Ministry of the Environment, 2007); and



WHEREAS, Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CECs), which include PPCPs, have been identified as a “key public health concern in the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan” (Metcalf 2014); and

WHEREAS, Environment Canada and Health Canada hosted workshops identifying research and risk management needs in regards to PPCPs but focused strongly on the risk to human health with little known on aquatic organisms (Kleywegt et al. 2007); and

WHEREAS, endocrine-disrupting compounds (EDCs), a type of PPCP, cause feminization of male fish in the outfalls of wastewater treatment plants (see Hicks et al. 2017); and

WHEREAS, upgrades to a wastewater treatment plant in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada (along the Grand River) reduced feminization of male fish (specifically Rainbow Darters) to less than 10% in post-upgrade years (compared to 70-100% pre-upgrade) (see Hicks et al. 2017); and

WHEREAS, according to research in Lake Michigan, PPCPs can be found as far as 3.2km (1.98 miles) offshore of wastewater treatment plants (Blair et al. 2013). This is an issue because water intakes of water treatment plants can be less than 2km (1.24 miles) offshore; and

WHEREAS, Blair et al. (2013) suggested that “the environmental risk of PPCPs in large lake systems, such as the Great Lakes, has been questioned due to high dilution; however, the concentrations found in this study, and their corresponding risk quotient, indicate a significant threat by PPCPs to the health of the Great Lakes, particularly near shore organisms”; and

WHEREAS, work continues, although progress is slow, to ensure proper and safe disposal options for unused pharmaceuticals are available to consumers, particularly in the U.S.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative encourages research to identify PPCPs of concern and the methodologies to determine their concentrations in the wastewater effluent before it is released to the receiving waters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that that the Cities Initiative calls for research to be conducted on the levels and frequency of PPCPs and EDCs and the ecological effects of



mixtures of PPCPs in regards to the complexities of aquatic and terrestrial environments;
and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative echoes the Ontario Ministry of Environment's call for further work "... to better understand the effectiveness of individual treatment technologies in reducing parent compounds as well as their metabolites or degradation products" (Ministry of the Environment, 2007); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative calls for research on the long term effects of PPCPs on aquatic species population levels, with emphasis on large lake systems, and effects on terrestrial ecosystems; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiatives calls for research on effective methods of removing PPCPs from wastewater; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, It is recommended that the federal, provincial and state governments move towards regulating PPCPs in wastewater effluent (Blair et al. 2013), accompanied with funding, and Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTPs) be upgraded through designated federal, provincial, and state funding to combat PPCPs intentionally disposed into the wastewater system as well as PPCPs excreted from humans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative encourages the proper and safe disposal of unused PPCPs and calls on pharmaceutical and personal care product manufacturers to take responsibility for their products and provide consumers with disposal options; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Federal Governments of Canada and the United States devote the necessary financial and other resources to address the threat of PPCPS in our drinking water and water systems.

Signed this 14th day of June 2017

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



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 14th day of June 2017

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

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



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

RESOLUTION 08 – 2017M

DESIGNATING THE GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE RIVER SYSTEM
A UNESCO BIOSPHERE RESERVE

Submitted by: City of Mississauga, City of Niagara Falls, NY, City of Montreal, City of Racine, and Québec Metropolitan Community

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence River, and the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin constitute the world's largest freshwater Biosphere; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River have been essential in supporting human habitation within the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Basin for over ten thousand years; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River provide habitat for thousands of aquatic and terrestrial species critical to the continuation of human existence within the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin; and

WHEREAS, there are ongoing efforts to sustainably manage the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River, recognizing the region's industrial past and present, current uses of the system, as well as ecological and environmental significance; and

WHEREAS, despite these efforts, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River remain under constant and imminent threat from invasive species and environmental degradation; and

WHEREAS, the current level of investment and commitment by the US and Canadian federal governments does not match the significance of this system, nor the urgency and need to protect and restore it; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (the Cities Initiative) stated Mission is to advance the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River for future generations.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative encourages the U.S. and Canadian federal governments to pursue a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve



designation for the Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River basin, the world's largest freshwater ecosystem; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cities Initiative work collaboratively with the Eight Great Lakes States, the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario, both the US and Canadian Federal Governments, as well as Governments of Indigenous People and members of the broader Great Lakes and St. Lawrence community to expedite the UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve Designation; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution with preliminary background information be delivered to the US and Canadian Federal Governments, the eight Great Lakes Governors, the Premiers of Quebec and Ontario, the Canadian Biosphere Reserve Association, and the US Biosphere Reserve Association.

Signed this 14th day of June 2017

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

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