



Anishinabek Nation, Canada and US mayors call for stricter rules for water withdrawals from the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence.

CITIES INITIATIVE NEWS AND UPDATES

GLSLCI Mayors Hold Historic Press Conference with Anishinabek First Nation

On November 30th, GLSLCI Board members joined forces with the Anishinabek First Nation to speak out against the loose regulations associated with withdrawals from the Great Lakes as laid out by the Compact Council. We are grateful for the participation of the Anishinabek Nation, a historic milestone in GLSLCI history and we look forward to continuing and fostering the relationships between our member mayors and the First Nations of Canada. Watch the full press conference below or read related media coverage.

[WATCH](#)
[BACKGROUND](#)
[PRESS RELEASE](#)

5 Projects Chosen for Thames River Phosphorous Reduction Collaborative Funding

The Thames River Phosphorus Reduction Collaborative is a joint project of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture and the GLSLCI, to reduce phosphorus using innovative technologies installed at the edge of farmers' fields and in municipal drains. The overall goal is to help contribute to the binational target of 40% reduction in phosphorus loads in Lake Erie. We have hit two milestones in the project- we have chosen five technologies and identified the sites for installation. Next steps are installation, monitoring and outreach.

[BACKGROUND](#)
[PRESS RELEASE](#)

GLSLCI to submit comments on Ontario Government Draft Environmental Plan

The draft Environment Plan is open for 60 days for public comment. The plan discusses the need to continue work to protect the Great Lakes in the chapter on water, and proposes updating Ontario's Great Lakes Strategy. It also discusses reviewing Ontario's water taking processes, working to improve wastewater and stormwater management, including working with municipalities to increase transparency through real time reporting of sewage overflows. There are additional chapters on climate change, waste/ litter and conservation and parks. GLSLCI will do a thorough review of the draft plan and submit comments by the **January 28 deadline**. If you would like to be involved in the review, or have comments on the plan that you would like to be included, please contact Sarah Rang at sarah.Rang@glslcities.org

[READ MORE](#)


Former Mayor and Board Member Scott Warnock receives award

Tay Township Mayor Scott Warnock won the Bob Whittam Award from the Severn Sound Environmental Association. GLSLCI nominated him based on his work in bringing the perspective of small and rural communities to GLSLCI, his work on the Board and in the community. We join in congratulating Mayor Warnock on winning this award.

GLSLCI Welcomes Newly Elected Mayors and Changes in Board of Directors

Following the recent Ontario elections, the GLSLCI welcomes all newly elected municipal leaders who took office this week. We look forward to continuing the important work of protecting and restoring the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River with you!

We also welcome the new Board of Director's Officers*:

Deputy Mayor Michelle Morin-Doyle, Chair *La Ville de Québec, QC (left)*

Mayor Mike Vandersteen, Vice-Chair *Sheboygan, WI (middle)*

Mayor Walter Sendzik, Secretary/Treasurer *St. Catharines, ON (right)*

**Officers designated by resolution passed by the Board of Directors*



Picture: Denis Cahill

GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE NEWS



Picture: National Wildlife Federation

Senate Action Bill Responds to Concerns about Aquatic Invasive Species

On November 14th, the US Senate passed legislation that regulates ballast water discharge in the Great Lakes. The legislation will help fight and prevent invasive from entering the Great Lakes.

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Environmental Commissioner, Dr Dianne Saxe issued annual environmental report

Ontario's environmental watchdog, Environmental Commissioner, Dr Dianne Saxe issued her annual environmental report - this year's report focused on water pollution. The report makes recommendations to provincial government on sewage bypasses, CSOs, reducing agricultural runoff, promoting green infrastructure and reducing road salt.

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New Michigan Governor Administration expected to fight Line 5 Tunnel

Following the outcry of fears over a potential oil spill in the Straits of Mackinac due to the 65-year-old Enbridge pipeline between the upper and lower peninsulas of Michigan, the new governor and attorney general have called for Line 5 to be decommissioned immediately. Consequently, they are expected to undo state agreements to build a pipeline tunnel.

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USACE Release's Report on Brandon Road

The US Army Corps of Engineers recently released a draft final report for interim measures at Brandon Road Lock and Dam to prevent the movement of Asian carp from the Chicago Area Waterway System into Lake Michigan. The draft final report includes a price tag triple what was originally estimated for the work. USACE is seeking public comment on the draft final report through Dec. 24.

[COMMENTS](#)
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Picture: Fank Gunn

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 6-8, 2019

Great Lakes Economic Forum

Cleveland, Ohio

June 5-7, 2019

GLSLCI Annual Conference

Blue Harbor Hotel
Sheboygan, WI

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