



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



**Support for Federal and Provincial Economic Investments  
in Priorities to Build Resilience for and Coastal  
Communities**

August 2021

*A Resolution Submitted by the Township of Tiny, Ontario*

**WHEREAS**, public investments made in meeting water quality objectives and restoring beneficial uses of our lakes and rivers must be maintained. This may result in the delisting of Severn Sound and other locations as Great Lakes Areas of Concern need to be maintained; and

**WHEREAS**, coastal communities are heavily impacted (on private and public infrastructure) by erosion, flooding and other effects from extreme weather events, significant changes in lake levels and extreme high lake levels with historically high lake levels predicted to persist in the near future; and

**WHEREAS**, climate change is projected to bring more frequent severe storm events that will compound impacts from high water levels and flooding, with 100-year storm events already happening every 20 years or less; and

**WHEREAS**, the need to build resilience in Great Lakes communities through re-evaluation of high-water mark, inventorying, evaluating and protecting natural assets and green or natural infrastructure is critical; and

**WHEREAS**, the Covid-19 pandemic is having a devastating impact on the economy of cities, towns and municipalities across the Great Lakes basin; and

**WHEREAS**, economic recovery and protecting and recovering the value of the natural environment and water quality go hand in hand; and

**WHEREAS**, Severn Sound and other Great Lakes municipalities do not have the resources to fund important resilience and restoration projects.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the GLSLCI and the Township of Tiny urge the Federal and Provincial governments of Canada to recognize the real and immediate need to help Great Lakes communities build resilience to climate change and extreme weather events including extreme water level changes.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the GLSLCI and the Township of Tiny urge the Federal and Provincial governments of Canada to provide economic support for Ontario Municipalities struggling with the economic

impacts of COVID 19, to support critical water resource priorities by providing financial and technical resources **through a dedicated funding program to assist** Great Lakes communities **affected by climate change impacts including erosion and flooding** to build resilience, including:

- inventory and evaluating municipal natural assets;
- shoreline resilience infrastructure;
- re-evaluating high water and set back policies;
- developing critical wave uprush mapping and modelling;
- further the development of Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR), and monitoring/modelling data; and
- upgrading weather stations.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the GLSLCI and the Township of Tiny urge the Federal Government to support Great Lakes Action Plan 2030 as it related to the above resolution including establishing and funding Shoreline Resiliency Priority zones, including Southeastern Georgian Bay/Severn Sound.