



June 2023

*A resolution submitted by the Quebec City Metropolitan Community and the City of Montreal*



## **Ensuring representation of the Cities Initiative with the Government of Quebec to meet the needs of Quebec's waterfront municipalities**

WHEREAS the St. Lawrence River is characterized by certain issues and challenges that are specific to it within the St. Lawrence-Great Lakes system, which may require approaches adapted to its context given its particularity and complexity; and

WHEREAS the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative has set up a Quebec Advisory Council made up of several elected representatives of municipalities along the St. Lawrence River, whose mandate is to address issues specific to the river and identify certain priorities concerning it; and

WHEREAS various communities and municipalities along the St. Lawrence River are facing issues and problems specific to the river, including water quality and drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, lack of public access to the river, shoreline erosion, degradation of riparian wetlands and shoreline flooding; and

WHEREAS the impact of some of these problems could be amplified by the effect of climate change, requiring numerous adaptation measures on the part of communities and shoreline municipalities along the St. Lawrence River; and

WHEREAS shoreline communities and municipalities can contribute to the reflections of the Quebec Advisory Council of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, and that it is possible to reach a consensus on common issues at the St. Lawrence level, considering different local and regional perspectives; and

WHEREAS several issues concerning the communities and municipalities along the St. Lawrence River are of direct concern to the Government of Quebec, including issues related to infrastructure impacting the quality of the river's water, the protection of riparian natural environments, as well as land use planning and certain associated challenges, including public access to the river and flood zones; and

WHEREAS the implementation of financial support programs dedicated to communities and municipalities along the St. Lawrence River can involve both the federal and Quebec governments, the latter also being an important intermediary for regional and municipal authorities that are members of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative; and

WHEREAS the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative can, through its representativeness, bring weight to advance certain demands that reflect a consensus across St. Lawrence River communities, considering the various priorities of different regions along the river.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, through its Quebec Advisory Council, will identify a number of priority issues related to the St. Lawrence River that could be given special attention and that could be translated into requests to government authorities;

AND BE IT RESOLVED THAT in the context of the work of the Quebec Advisory Council, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative strengthen its advocacy efforts with the Government of Quebec to respond to the needs that could be put forward by said council.