



Mayor Ostrander of Brighton Joins the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative

Chicago, IL – January 14, 2025 – The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative is pleased to welcome Mayor Brian Ostrander and Brighton, ON to its growing coalition of more than 270 mayors and top elected local leaders working to advance the socioeconomic and environmental health of communities in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin.

As a member of the Cities Initiative, Mayor Ostrander will work collaboratively with member mayors across the basin in the United States and Canada to: support ecosystem and source water protection; ensure that every resident has access to clean, safe, and affordable water; better prepare communities for the impacts of climate change; and, set the path for the basin's economic transformation into a world-leading blue-green economic corridor.

Located on the shores of Lake Ontario and home to Presqu'ile Provincial Park, a renowned nature and bird-watching haven surrounded by limestone and sandy shorelines. With its soothing lakeshore breezes, rolling beach waves, and wide-open sky, Brighton is a relaxed lakeside getaway.

Brian Ostrander, Mayor of Brighton, ON: "We are excited to be a member of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative. As a community located on the shores of Lake Ontario between Toronto and Montreal, we believe Brighton has a responsibility to contribute positively to the health of our local ecosystems and to be prepared for the effects of climate change. When Brighton experienced flooding in 2017 and 2019, GLSL were an important partner to have in creating policies to help mitigate flooding. We look forward to continuing our work with the organization and its members from across the region to achieve the vision of being a world-leading blue-green corridor."

Gino Moretti, Mayor of Saint-Anicet, QC and Canadian Co-Chair of the Cities Initiative: "Our organization is delighted to welcome Brighton and Mayor Ostrander to our team. Cities and local governments are on the frontlines of the biggest challenges facing communities in the basin. Working together, we can better prepare our communities for climate change, tap into new economic opportunities for our region and avert the water crises and conflicts impacting other regions of North America and the world."

Every new member of the Cities Initiative is a testament to the importance that local governments in this globally significant basin place on preserving our freshwater resources, preparing our communities for the impacts of climate change, improving our aging water infrastructure and building sustainable local economies that attract new blue and green industries and good jobs.

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About the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative

The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative is a multinational coalition of municipal and Indigenous government executives representing communities in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Region who are working to promote economic prosperity in our communities and protect our fresh water for the benefit of current and future generations. With more than 270 member communities, the Cities Initiative is leading the way in advancing the environmental, economic and social health of a region that contains 80% of North America’s fresh water, a source of drinking water for 40 million Canadians and Americans, and an integrated \$8-trillion economy – the third-largest in the world.

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