

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mayor Daniel Côté of Gaspé Joins the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative

Chicago, IL – April 23, 2025 – The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative is pleased to welcome Daniel Côté, Mayor of Gaspé, QC, to its growing coalition of more than 325 mayors and top elected local leaders working to advance the socioeconomic and environmental health of communities in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Region.

As a member of the Cities Initiative, Mayor Côté will work collaboratively with members from across the basin in the United States and Canada to support healthy lakes and rivers, safe and affordable water for all residents, climate resilient communities, and economic transformation throughout the region.

Daniel Côté, Mayor of Gaspé, QC: "As the main hub of Gaspésie, a region surrounded by the St. Lawrence, Gaspé intends to assume its role as regional leader within the Cities Initiative. Our economy lives to the rhythm of the St. Lawrence. The fisheries, shipbuilding and tourism industries are just a few examples, in addition to the crucial role that has been played by the natural port of Gaspé for 500 years. Gaspé is also at the heart of climate hazards, bearing the brunt of warming waters and eroding shorelines. These are just some of the reasons why we decided to join this great coalition, to position our city, to contribute to public debates, to benefit from the Cities Initiative's leadership, and to ensure that it includes more of our region's reality in its work across borders."

Mayor Gino Moretti of Saint-Anicet, QC, Canadian Co-Chair of the of the Cities Initiative: "Our organization is delighted to welcome Mayor Côté and the City of Gaspé to our team. Cities and local governments are on the frontlines of the biggest challenges facing communities in our region. 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 325 member communities, the Cities Initiative is leading the way in advancing the



environmental, economic, and social health of the region by addressing issues impacting its residents.

For more information, please contact:

Christine Maydossian | Leliken Public Affairs | cmaydossian@leliken.com