

A Resolution Submitted by the Township of Tiny, ON



PROTECTING DYNAMIC SHORELINES ACROSS THE GREAT LAKES AND GEORGIAN BAY

May 2025

WHEREAS the Great Lakes and Georgian Bay have invaluable stretches of environmentally significant dynamic beaches.

AND WHEREAS the Great Lakes and Georgian Bay are home to over 3,500 plant and animal species, some of which are unique to the region and not found anywhere else on Earth.

AND WHEREAS the Great Lakes and Georgian Bay support world-renowned recreational opportunities, including hunting and fishing, which generate more than \$52 billion for the region.

AND WHEREAS a dynamic beach is an area of the shoreline that is a natural phenomenon that allows nature to maintain its ability to rejuvenate itself with the fluctuating natural water level cycles and allowing material to naturally move back and forth.

AND WHEREAS municipalities work with conservation authorities, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Department of Fisheries and Oceans and other provincial and federal resources to manage and protect dynamic beaches in the Great Lakes and Georgian Bay.

AND WHEREAS Great Lakes watersheds are experiencing increasing pressure from population growth and development activities and climate change that are impacting dynamic beaches, water quality and ecological integrity.

AND WHEREAS municipalities have the ability to implement Dynamic Beach Management By-laws and amendments to Official Plans and Zoning By-laws to preserve this most valuable environmental resource while at the same time balancing the growth, social and economic needs of the community.

AND WHEREAS small Great Lakes municipalities are facing exponentially increasing costs, making them unable to bear the full cost of dynamic beach protection and floodplain mapping.

AND WHEREAS greater investments in implementing watershed-based actions and activities to prevent negative impacts on downstream water quality and maintenance and protection of dynamic beaches, including investments in floodplain mapping are needed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative calls upon the Canadian federal and provincial governments to support small Great Lakes communities for watershed-based activities to restore and protect dynamic beach process associated with the Great Lakes and Georgian Bay.
- The Canadian Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry should continue to develop guidelines and requirements as it relates to the 100-year Water Level and Flood/Dynamic Beach Hazard definition(s) to ensure clear areas for management are identified and reflects the climate change and erosion implications.
- The federal and provincial governments should take a leadership role in funding critical investments in dynamic beach and floodplain mapping and management.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of this resolution will be distributed to: Canadian Minister of Environment and Climate Change Julie Dabrusin; Ontario Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry Mike Harris; Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks Todd J. McCarthy and Canadian Minister of Fisheries Joanne Thompson.