



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Warden Dominique Giguère of Elgin County Joins the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative

Toronto, ON – February 17, 2026– The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative is pleased to welcome Warden Dominique Giguère and Elgin County, ON to its growing coalition of more than 400 mayors and local executives working to advance economic prosperity across the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Region while protecting the globally significant freshwater resources that are the heart of the region.

As a member of the Cities Initiative, Warden Giguère and Elgin County 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.

Warden Dominique Giguère of Elgin County, ON: “The County of Elgin is thrilled to join the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative and work with other like-minded partners to protect our freshwater resources, while also supporting local economic growth. As a community situated directly on Lake Erie, safeguarding our lakeshore and waterways is vital to the health, prosperity, and well-being of our residents. Being part of this network helps us explore forward-thinking solutions that ensure communities along the Great Lakes waterways continue to flourish.”

Elgin County is a predominantly rural region in Southwestern Ontario, located along the north shore of Lake Erie between Toronto and Windsor. A regional municipality encompassing seven member municipalities, Elgin County is home to more than 50,000 residents and features over 100 kilometres of Lake Erie shoreline. Known for its strong agricultural roots, small-town communities, and scenic waterfront, the County offers a high quality of life supported by a skilled workforce and a solid economic base. With a strategic location and access to key transportation routes, Elgin County combines rural charm with modern amenities for residents and businesses alike.

Mayor Mat Siscoe of St. Catharines, ON, Canadian Co-Chair of the of the Cities Initiative: “It’s great to welcome Warden Giguère and Elgin County to our growing coalition. We need to work together to ensure the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Region remains one of the top global economies and continue to deliver prosperity for our residents. That means collaborating on building the Fresh Coast Economic Corridor, modernizing our water infrastructure, and protecting the lakes and rivers that are the foundation of our success as a region. The Cities Initiative is a key player to deliver on those priorities.”

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, First Nation, and Tribal 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 400 communities represented by its membership, 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:

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