



MAKING WAVES

May 21, 2009

Register for the 2009 Annual Meeting!!

Visit www.greatlakes-troisrivieres.com to register for the GLSLCI 2009 Annual Member Meeting and Conference which will be held June 17-19, 2009 in Trois-Rivières, Quebec. This is an important event for members to attend as we will vote on resolutions that guide the policy direction of the organization. Invited keynote speakers include: Premier of Quebec Jean Charest, Canada Minister of Environment Jim Prentice, Quebec Environment Minister Line Beauchamp, Mayor David Miller of Toronto, U.S. Congressman James Oberstar and IJC Commissioner Pierre Trépanier. The discounted hotel rate ends on June 7, 2009.

Ontario Mayors' Great Lakes Action Plan Well Received

The Ontario Mayors Great Lakes Action Plan, which was released at the first ever Great Lakes Summit in Toronto on May 5, 2009, received a great deal of positive news coverage. Check out the coverage at www.glslcities.org/news.htm. A number of member mayors from around Ontario utilized the Cities Initiative template press release which helped get broad coverage on the action plan and the summit.

Mayor Shewfelt OMWA Representative to Compact/Agreement Committee

Mayor Deb Shewfelt of Goderich was recently selected to act as the Ontario Municipal Water Association representative on the Advisory Panel for the Rules/Procedures Committee for the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Water Resources Regional Body. The Advisory Panel will help the Rules/Procedures Committee with developing and recommending procedures for the Regional Body to adopt to implement regional review under the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact and Agreement. To learn more, please visit www.glsregionalbody.org.

Funding for Brownfields

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency officials recently announced the availability of grant funding to help communities clean up brownfield sites. The grants include \$37.3 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and \$74.6 million from the EPA general brownfield funding. Six GLSLCI member cities, Rochester, Grand Rapids (Grand Valley Metropolitan Council), Muskegon, Toledo, Milwaukee (Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee), and Gary, were awarded these funds, for a total of \$3,800,000. These funds will allow cities to re-purpose previously hazardous sites into productive properties, which will benefit the communities into the future by creating jobs and supporting a better quality environment.

177 North State Street, Suite 500, Chicago, Illinois 60601 ~ (312) 201-4516 phone ~ (312) 553-4355 fax
www.gslcities.org

Lynn Peterson, Mayor of Thunder Bay, Chair

Richard M. Daley, Mayor of Chicago, Founding United States Chair

David Miller, Mayor of Toronto, Founding Canadian Chair



Great Lakes Stakeholders Urge Congress to Approve Obama Budget

Great Lakes stakeholders from around the region made a call for the U.S. Congress to approve the \$475 million Great Lakes Restoration Initiative proposed in President Obama's 2010 federal budget, during a press event on May 14, 2009. The press call for journalists was a joint effort between the Cities Initiative, the Great Lakes Commission, the Council of Great Lakes Industries and the Healing our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition to respond to details released by the Obama Administration on the proposed \$475 million funding. During the call, Cities Initiative Executive Director, David Ullrich stated, "our message to Congress is simple. Local governments have a strategy and are willing and able to get to work to restore the Great Lakes, safeguard public health, and create jobs. It's time for Congress to move forward and act." The \$475 million Great Lakes Restoration Initiative aims to address some of the most urgent issues on the Great Lakes, including toxic substances and Areas of Concern; aquatic invasive species; near-shore health and pollution prevention; habitat and wildlife protection and restoration; and evaluating and monitoring progress. To see more about the press event, please visit www.gslscities.org/news.htm. To learn more about the proposed \$475 million, please visit www.epa.gov/glnpo/glri/index.html.

Superior Watershed Partnership Promotes "Great Waters" Program

The Superior Watershed Partnership along with Northern Initiatives is promoting a new program, Great Waters. The program aids in guiding visitors in experiences along Lakes Superior, Michigan and Huron. "Trails" for each lake provide details regarding everything from dining to recreation and campground locations. The Great Waters program is a great tool for visitors to help plan itineraries for adventures along the lakes. In addition to the visitor information, the program allows Great Lakes enthusiasts to help protect the environment they so enjoy. Conservation tips, information on service days and outstanding photos are all shared through the Great Waters program. More details can be found at www.greatwaters.net.

In another project by the Superior Watershed Partnership, the Lake Superior Shoreviewer was developed as an essential tool for both local governments and residents to view the Michigan shoreline along Lake Superior in great detail. The website has been used for everything from hike planning, to city development and real estate examination. The Lake Superior Shoreviewer can be found at www.superiorwatersheds.org/shorelineviewer.

St. Lawrence Seaway Celebrates 50 Years

A binational reception on May 1st in Duluth set off a year-long celebration to honor the 50th anniversary of the St. Lawrence Seaway. The St. Lawrence Seaway was officially inaugurated on June 26, 1959 by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and U.S. President Eisenhower. Since then, more than 2.3 billion tons of cargo has been shipped through the

177 North State Street, Suite 500, Chicago, Illinois 60601 ~ (312) 201-4516 phone ~ (312) 553-4355 fax
www.gslscities.org

Lynn Peterson, Mayor of Thunder Bay, Chair

Richard M. Daley, Mayor of Chicago, Founding United States Chair

David Miller, Mayor of Toronto, Founding Canadian Chair



Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Seaway system. The Port of Duluth-Superior was the logical place to start the celebration as the Port became the first “world” port with the arrival of the British vessel *Ramon de Larrinaga* in May of 1959 and is the second largest dry bulk port in the United States and the number one volume port along the Great Lakes. More information on the events to celebrate the Seaway’s 50th anniversary can be found at www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/seaway50/ and www.duluthport.com.

Great Lakes Wind Collaborative Annual Meeting

The Great Lakes Wind Collaborative (GLWC) is a group established to build consensus and identify and address issues affecting the planning, development, and operation of wind power facilities in the Great Lakes region. The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative represents municipalities on the GLWC with Regional Chair Peter Partington of the Niagara Region on the Steering Committee and Melissa Soline on the Advisory Committee. Please click [here](#) if you are interested in attending the GLWC annual meeting which will be held in Milwaukee, WI on June 10 and 11, 2009.

Membership

We are pleased to welcome our newest member, the Township of Huron-Kinloss to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative!! Join the 64 Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative members in protecting and restoring the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River by clicking [here](#). If you are already a member, please encourage your neighboring communities to join, and be sure to renew your membership when you receive your notice.

177 North State Street, Suite 500, Chicago, Illinois 60601 ~ (312) 201-4516 phone ~ (312) 553-4355 fax
www.glslcities.org

Lynn Peterson, Mayor of Thunder Bay, Chair

Richard M. Daley, Mayor of Chicago, Founding United States Chair

David Miller, Mayor of Toronto, Founding Canadian Chair