



**WISHING YOU A HAPPY AND SAFE  
HOLIDAY SEASON ON THE  
GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE!**



Lighthouse in winter, Michigan (Source: Michigan Travel Bureau, EPA GLNPO)

**GLSLCI MAYORS ARE SUCCEEDING IN PROTECTING  
AND RESTORING THE RESOURCE BECAUSE OF  
CITIES LIKE YOURS.**

**Sincerely,**  
***The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative***

177 North State Street, Suite 500, Chicago, Illinois 60601 ~ (312) 201-4516 phone ~ (312) 553-4355 fax  
[www.glslicities.org](http://www.glslicities.org)

*Gary Becker, Mayor of Racine, Chair*

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

*David Miller, Mayor of Toronto, Founding Canadian Chair*



## **MAKING WAVES**

### **December 20, 2007**

#### ***GLSLCI Board Challenges Governments***

The 2007 GLSLCI midyear Board of Directors Meeting was held on December 14th at the SC Johnson Wingspread Conference Center in Wind Point, WI, and was hosted by GLSLCI Chairman, Mayor Gary Becker of Racine. Board Members Mayor Ellen Anderson (Town of the Blue Mountains), Mayor Herb Bergson (Duluth), Mayor Richard M. Daley (Chicago), Mayor Denis Lapointe (Salaberry-de-Valleyfield), Mayor Brian McMullan (St. Catharines), Mayor David Miller (Toronto), and Mayor Lynn Peterson (Thunder Bay) attended. Additional attendees included GLSLCI Member Mayor Dave Ross (Superior), GLSLCI Member Mayor Tom Barrett (Milwaukee), and the Mayor of Green Bay, Jim Schmitt.

The Wingspread Conference Center provided a pristine backdrop for the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence policy work conducted during the meeting. The Board took action on a number of matters, including: 1) issuing a challenge to elected officials and governments; 2) water levels; and 3) GLSLCI membership.

**Challenge:** On behalf of the organization and its members, the GLSLCI Board issued a set of challenges to presidential candidates, the United States Congress, State Legislatures, the Canadian government, the Ontario and Quebec governments, and local governments. The challenges, announced during a press conference at the meeting, are intended to encourage elected officials and governments to act on Great Lakes and St. Lawrence priorities. To see the list of specific challenges and a questionnaire that was directed to U.S. presidential candidates, please visit [www.glslicities.org](http://www.glslicities.org).

**Water Levels:** Mayor Anderson led a Board discussion on water levels, beginning with an overview of the situation in the Town of the Blue Mountains. According to Mayor Anderson, the Town is considering extending one of its two water intake valves due to lowering lake levels; an action that carries a price tag of \$5 Million. Water levels have been a growing concern for a number of GLSLCI members and as a result, the Board passed a resolution and directed GLSLCI staff to send a letter to the IJC Chairs concerning the issue of water levels. The resolution and letter underscore the importance of water levels to municipalities and the need to move forward expeditiously with the Upper Great Lakes and St. Clair River study. Please visit [www.glslicities.org](http://www.glslicities.org) to see the resolution and a copy of the letter.

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**Membership:** Three new members recently joined GLSLCI — the City of Sheffield Lake, the Township of Nipigon, and the City of Bayfield — bringing our membership to a total of 51! Mayor Becker has established increasing membership as a priority for his year as GLSLCI Chairman. At the midyear meeting, Board members committed to reaching out to at least three communities each in a recruitment effort. If you know of a city that would be interested in joining and you would like some membership materials to distribute, please contact Melissa Soline at 312.201.4517.

### ***Trois Rivières Chosen as 2009 Host City***

At the GLSLCI midyear Board of Directors Meeting, Trois-Rivières was chosen to host the 2009 Annual Meeting. Trois-Rivières, located in the Province of Quebec, between Montreal and Quebec City, will be celebrating its 375th anniversary in 2009. Its location along the St. Lawrence River, along with the upcoming historic celebration, makes it a wonderful Host City for the 2009 Annual Meeting. To learn more about Trois-Rivières, visit [www.v3r.net/portail/index.aspx](http://www.v3r.net/portail/index.aspx)

### ***Daley and Heartwell Recognized as Sustainability Leaders***

Mayor Richard M. Daley of Chicago and Mayor George Heartwell of Grand Rapids made Dr. Kent Portney's list of top mayors for sustainability. Dr. Portney is a Tufts University professor, consultant, and author, whose research focuses on how to help cities become more sustainable. His list highlights fifteen U.S. mayors who "get it" when it comes to sustainability, and recognizes cities and mayors for their ability to make positive change happen quickly. To see who else made the list, please visit [www.ourgreencities.com](http://www.ourgreencities.com).

### ***Racine in the News***

The City of Racine was recently featured on Forbes.com as one of the next big second home markets. Reasons cited in the article for Racine's second home popularity include the "great beach, one of the cleanest on the lake", as well as waterfront development and a revitalized main street. The City of Racine has focused intensely on North Beach over the last few years and is a leader in beach management best practices. In fact, the City recently participated in an EPA-funded beach sanitary survey pilot project. Sanitary surveys help beach managers and communities better understand their beaches and the various sources of contamination. Results from the pilot program will likely be released in early 2008. To read about Racine in the Forbes.com article, please visit [www.forbes.com](http://www.forbes.com).

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