



MAKING WAVES

March 16th, 2010

GLSLCI Beaches and Coasts Workshop

The Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Natural Resources and the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative are holding a beaches workshop, *Great Lakes Beaches and Coasts: 2010-2020*, April 15th, in Toronto. The workshop will gather provincial and municipal groups along with beach experts in an informal full-day program. For more information on the workshop including registration details and location please visit our website at www.gslscities.org/news/news.cfm. Please note that space is limited for this workshop.

St. Clair River Study Public Meetings

The International Joint Commission is inviting public comment on their study, Impacts on Upper Great Lakes Water Levels: St. Clair River. Meetings will be from March 22-25 in six locations throughout both the U.S. and Canada. Please consult our website for the full list of dates and times for these public meetings, www.gslscities.org/news/news.cfm.

Climate Change Engineering Symposium

The Ontario Society of Professional Engineers and the ArcelorMittal Dofasco Center for Engineering and Public Policy at McMaster University are presenting a one day symposium on climate change. The conference, *Engineering in a Climate of Change: Making the Lakes Great, a North American Symposium* will be held April 29, 2010 at MaRS Discovery Center in Toronto. The conference will highlight both the technical and public policy end of mitigation and adaptation to climate change. Please visit <http://www.ospeclimatechange.ca/> for more information.

Atlas of Bank Restoration Sites of the St. Lawrence River

The Atlas of Bank Restoration Sites of the St. Lawrence River produced within the St. Lawrence Plan framework, is now available. This atlas constitutes an interactive tool for bank restoration sites on the St. Lawrence River. It presents an inventory of 481 sites disturbed by human activities along the river. Sites are classified under different themes such as the stabilization of eroding banks, the planting on terrestrial habitat, and the control of invasive plants in wetlands. Technical templates have been provided for each site with information on the location, the site's problems, possible solutions, environmental gains, and constraints to the realization of the project. For more information, please consult the following website:

http://www.qc.ec.gc.ca/faune/AtlasDeRestaurationDesRivesDuSaint-Laurent/accueil_e.asp.

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www.gslscities.org

George K. Heartwell, Mayor of Grand Rapids, Chair

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

David Miller, Mayor of Toronto, Founding Canadian Chair



Ontario Throne Speech and Canadian Federal Budget Announced

The beginning of March has been marked by the Federal and Ontario Throne Speeches and by the Federal budget. Here are the principal points related to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River.

- The Federal Budget:
 - Allows \$8 million annually to Environment Canada to carry on with the Great Lakes Action Plan.
 - Allows \$38 million on 2 years for the Invasive Alien Species Strategy for Canada.
 - Does not mention any allocation for the St. Lawrence River or for the St. Lawrence Plan.
 - Does not renew the EcoENERGY Initiative.
 - Renews the Green Infrastructure Fund with the allocation of \$1 billion over 5 years. Half of the funds have already been committed.
- The Ontario Throne Speech:
 - Has announced the proposal of a Water Opportunities Act that would lay the foundation for new Ontario jobs and make the province the North American leader in the development and sale of new technologies and services for water conservation and treatment.
 - The budget will be presented by March 25th and will provide more details at that time.

Save the Date – Cities Initiative Annual Member Meeting & Conference!

Mark your calendars - the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative 2010 Annual Member Meeting and Conference will be held June 16-18, 2010 in Milwaukee, WI! Visit the Conference website at www.glslici2010milwaukee.org for the latest news and updates on the Annual Meeting and Conference. Confirmed speakers so far for the annual meeting include Gary Doer, Canadian Ambassador to the United States, Cameron Davis, Special Advisor on the Great Lakes to the US EPA Administrator and the Deputy Mayor of Turku, Finland from the Union of Baltic Cities.

Membership

Please join us in welcoming Sept-Îles, Québec to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative! Join the 72 Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative members in protecting and restoring the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River by clicking [here](#) for a membership application. 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.

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