



MAKING WAVES

September 3, 2010

Rochester Receives EPA Funding for Water Quality Improvements

The City of Rochester received \$728,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to fund water quality improvements at Durand Eastman Beach.

Also, the City will be hosting the 23rd World Canals Conference Sept. 19-24. Rochester is the only city to have the honor of hosting the event a second time! The City is sponsoring opening day activities, including a barge concert by the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra.

Ontario and Québec Cabinet Shuffles

Premier Jean Charest reorganized his cabinet on August 11th. The most significant change for the Alliance is Mr. Pierre Arcand's appointment as Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks. Our Chairman, Mayor Denis Lapointe, sent Mr. Arcand a letter of congratulations as well as a request of meeting to inform him of the activities and the priorities of the Alliance. With the intensification of our activities in Québec, this meeting will be an excellent opportunity to strengthen our links with this important ministry.

On August 18th, Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty announced a shuffle of his cabinet members, as well. New Ministers include John Wilkinson as Minister of Environment, Former Ottawa Mayor Bob Chiarelli becomes Minister of Infrastructure and Brad Dugid remains Minister of Energy.

Grant Opportunity for Rural Climate Action Planning

The Model Forest Policy Program for *Climate Solutions University: Forest and Water Strategies*, is offering a grant opportunity. The program offers U.S. rural communities the opportunity to protect their natural resources and become involved in climate change adaptation strategies. The program offers communities online education and consulting to help them develop a Climate Action Planning process focused on forest and water resources. Applications are due by September 15th. For more information on this opportunity please visit www.mfpp.org/Climate_Solutions_University/2011.html

Bruce Power Proposal to ship radioactive steam generators on the Great Lakes

The Cities Initiative is fact finding regarding the proposal by Ontario based Bruce Power to ship 16 radioactive steam generators from its facility in Bruce County Ontario, to be recycled at an authorized facility in Sweden at a cost of approximately \$16-32 million. Bruce Power requires special approval from one of the regulatory authorities, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission for this shipment,

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because the total amount of radioactivity, (3.67 terabequerels) exceeds the limits allowed on a single ship and the sheer size of the generators do not fit regular package requirements.

Concerns have been raised locally and across the region on the: potentially precedent setting nature of shipment of radioactive waste on the lakes and river, the lack of early public involvement, the potential environmental impacts and the adequacy of the response if something went wrong. The City of Windsor has passed a resolution opposing the shipment. Sarnia Mayor Bradley has also publicly voiced his opposition to the shipment. Great Lakes United has organized a binational coalition of 60 groups and passed a resolution opposing the shipment. The Cities Initiative has sent a letter to the Nuclear Commission expressing concerns. The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission will hold a one day public hearing on the shipment in Ottawa on September 29. For more information please contact Sarah Rang, 416-972 -7400

Annual Meeting and Conference Summary

The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative Annual meeting and Conference in Milwaukee this past June was a big success. For a full summary of events from the conference please visit: <http://www.glslcities.org/annual-meetings/2010.cfm>

Mayor John Rowswell, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario

The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence family was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of His Worship John Rowswell on August 31, 2010, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. He was a stalwart champion of our cause for many years. His dedication to the organization was clearly evident by his presence at our Annual Meeting in Milwaukee the June, and we were very fortunate to have that time with him. He will be missed by all, but will continue to inspire our work. Our deepest sympathy goes to his family, friends, and the entire Sault Ste. Marie community.

Membership

Please join us in welcoming the City of Sheboygan, Wisconsin and Mayor Bob Ryan to the Cities Initiative! Join the 73 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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