



**Committee of Advisors
to the
Great Lakes Fishery Commission**



**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE GREAT LAKES – ST.
LAWRENCE GROUP, A SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CANADA-UNITED
STATES INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GROUP**

WHEREAS, in September 2020 the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Group (GLSLG) was formalized as a subcommittee of the Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group for a trial period ending September 30, 2021;

WHEREAS, the GLSLG is intended to mirror and complement the Senate and House Great Lakes Task Force in the United States;

WHEREAS, the GLSLG can help focus and hold the attention and legislative efforts of Canada's Members of Parliament and Senators on ways to facilitate and promote cross-border and multi-partisan cooperation on legislative and policy issues relating to the protection of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River as a multi-nation significant public resource;

WHEREAS, the GLSLG can foster relationships with U.S. legislators to be leveraged to ensure meaningful, effective and efficient cooperation on legislative and policy issues relating to the protection of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River;

WHEREAS, the GLSLG can collaborate with existing organizations to promote and ensure the economic, environmental, and social stewardship of the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River;

WHEREAS, the GLSLG can help ensure the Government of Canada appreciates the national significance of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River as a dynamic cultural, economic, and environmental asset;

WHEREAS, the GLSLG offers stakeholders with direct access to Parliamentarians on legislative and policy issues, who have declared their commitment to the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River; and

WHEREAS, Canada has traditionally lacked specific budget and policy focus on the Great Lakes, and this lack of focus has consequently stunted Canada's progress on issue such as support for water resources-related infrastructure, the creation of strategic

The opinions expressed here are those of the independent committee of advisors and not necessarily those of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. The Committee of Advisors consists of both U.S. and Canadian representatives, from indigenous, commercial, recreational, academic, agency, environmental, and public fishery interests in the Great Lakes Basin. Advisors provide advice to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission; U.S. advisors are nominated by the State Governors, and appointed by the commission. Canadian advisors are appointed by the commission.

public-private and government-to-government Great Lakes partnerships, and on the establishment of long-term tools such as a Canadian Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Canadian and U.S. Advisors to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission call upon the Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group to establish the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Group as either a permanent subcommittee or as an independent group when the trial period ends;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as part of its responsibilities the GLSLG seek Government of Canada support comparable to that provided through the U.S. Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI), and voice support for continued U.S. investment in the Great Lakes, including the GLRI; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the GLSLG will work with U.S. legislators to establish and work towards shared Great Lakes priorities.

Passed unanimously

May 25, 2021

U.S. and Canadian Advisors