

Protecting and Restoring our Great Lakes



**David Naftzger, Executive Director
Council of Great Lakes Governors**

Council of Great Lakes Governors

- **Mission:** To encourage and facilitate environmentally responsible economic growth
- **Members:** Governors of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin
- **Associate Members:** Premiers of Ontario and Québec



The Great Lakes Basin



Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement

- **Good-faith agreement among the Great Lakes Governors and Premiers**
- **Framework for State and Provincial implementation into law**
 - **Provincial action**
 - **Interstate Compact**



Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact

- **Legally enforceable contract among the Great Lakes States**
- **Provided for in the U.S. Constitution**
- **Ratification by State legislatures**
- **Congressional consent**



Details of the Agreements

- **Economic development will be fostered through the sustainable use and responsible management of Basin waters.**
- **There will be a ban on new diversions of water from the Basin, with limited exceptions.**
 - **Straddling Communities**
 - **Communities in Straddling Counties**
 - **Intra-Basin Transfers**

Details of the Agreements

- **The States and Provinces will use a consistent standard to review proposed uses of Basin water.**
- **Regional objectives for water conservation and efficiency will be developed and they will be reviewed every five years.**
- **Each State and Province will develop and implement a water conservation and efficiency program.**

Details of the Agreements

- **The collection of technical data will be strengthened, and the States and Provinces will share the information, which will improve decision-making by the governments.**
- **There is a strong commitment to continued public involvement in the implementation of the agreements.**

Regional Body

- **Includes Governors, Premiers or designees**
- **Oversees agreement implementation**
 - **Develops regional conservation and efficiency goals and objectives**
 - **Develops science strategy**
 - **Serves as a forum for consultation and coordination**



Next Steps States

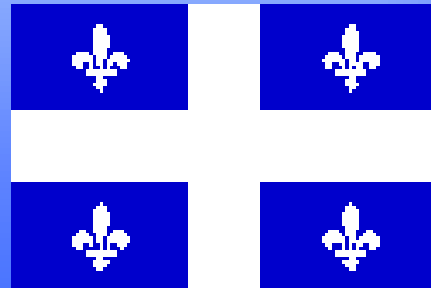
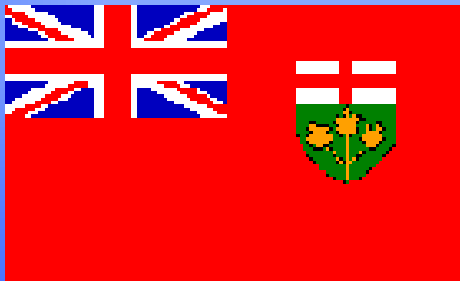
- **Laws and regulations enacted**
 - **State legislatures ratify interstate Compact**
 - **Congressional consent obtained**



Next Steps

Provinces

- **Laws and regulations enacted**
 - **Provinces amend statutes, regulations as needed**
 - **No federal legislation required**





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