

# Declaration of Partnership



## Declaration of Partnership

*Whereas, the informed use, management and protection of the water and related land resources of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Basin is essential in maintaining a healthy environment, strong economy and high quality of life for all Basin residents; and*

*Whereas, the Basin is a shared, binational resource that requires a spirit of collaboration among multiple jurisdictions to ensure an efficient and effective approach to shared goals; and*

*Whereas, the Great Lakes states and the Governments of Ontario and Quebec have demonstrated their stewardship responsibility for Basin resources through a strong and growing partnership; and*

*Whereas, this partnership is recognized in the Great Lakes Basin Compact, as signed into law by the legislature in every Great Lakes state; and*

*Whereas, the Governments of Ontario and Quebec presently enjoy "Observer" status within the Great Lakes Commission; and*

*Whereas, the Great Lakes states and the Governments of Ontario and Quebec share an interest in strengthening and formalizing this relationship.*

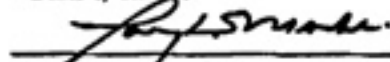
*Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the eight member states of the Great Lakes Commission extend, and the Governments of Ontario and Quebec accept, Associate Member status on the Great Lakes Commission; and*

*Be It Further Resolved, that the Great Lakes states invite the Governments of Ontario and Quebec to appoint a delegation of representatives to the Great Lakes Commission, for the purpose of participating in meetings and activities as provided for in the Great Lakes Basin Compact; and*

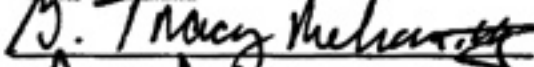
*Be It Finally Resolved, that the Great Lakes states and Governments of Ontario and Quebec view Associate Member status as an important step toward the goal of a stronger partnership as provided for in the Great Lakes Basin Compact adopted by the eight Great Lakes states.*



State of Illinois



State of Louisiana



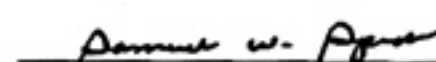
State of Michigan



State of Minnesota



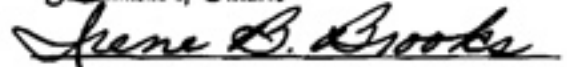
State of New York



State of Ohio



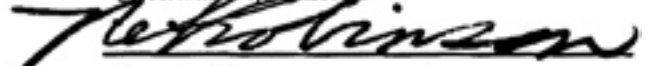
Government of Ontario



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Government of Quebec



State of Wisconsin

