



2026 Great Lakes Commission Annual Meeting

MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN AT CF TORONTO EATON CENTRE • 525 BAY ST • TORONTO, ON • M5G 2L2

Attendee List

Name	Title	Organization
Jonathan Altenberg	President and CEO	Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Jonathan Arnold	Federal Executive (retired)	Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Vance Badawey	President & CEO	Council of the Great Lakes Region
Heidi Belec	Contract Specialist	Environmental Protection Agency
Sebastian Belliard	Canada Great Lakes Ag Program Manager	The Nature Conservancy
Joe Bertram	Deputy Director	Great Lakes Commission
Luke Bingaman	Program Associate	Great Lakes Legislative Caucus
Kerith Brand	Public and Governmental Affairs Attachée	Délégation du Québec à Chicago
Eric Brown	Director of Policy and Government Affairs	Great Lakes Commission
Tim Bruno	Great Lakes Program Coordinator	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
David (Bo) Bunnell	Fish Biologist	USGS Great Lakes Science Center
Mozart Carr	Policy Advisor	Ontario Ministry of Transportation
Colin Cassin	Executive Director	Invasive Species Centre
Lindsay Chadderton	Aquatic Invasive Species Director	The Nature Conservancy
Elizabeth Cisar	Director, Environment Program	The Joyce Foundation
Stephanie Comer	President	Comer Family Foundation
Doug Craven	Natural Resources Director	Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
Christina Critelli	Assistant Deputy Minister	Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs, International Relations and Protocol
Valerie Damstra	Associate Director-Operations	Burke Center for Ecosystem Research
Fe de Leon	Senior Researcher and Paralegal	Canadian Environmental Law Association
Taylor Deleary	Indigenous Land Guardian	Chippewas of The Thames First Nations

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Callin Deleary	Indigenous Land Guardian	Chippewas of The Thames First Nations
Andrea Densham	Director Regional Government Affairs	Alliance for the Great Lakes
Shannon Dougherty	Great Lakes Program Director	NYS Department Environmental Conservation
Catherine Edwards	Deputy General Counsel	Michigan House of Representatives
Jesse Feyen	Director	NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory
Kate Fineske	Executive Director	National Museum of the Great Lakes
Emily Finnell	Great Lakes Senior Advisor and Strategist	EGLE Office of the Great Lakes
MPP Jennifer French	Member of Provincial Parliament	Province of Ontario
Marc Gaden	Executive Secretary	Great Lakes Fishery Commission
Valerie Glazer	Manager, Government and Community Relations	The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation
Pierre-Luc Gravel	Directeur des relations internationales et canadienne	Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune, et des Parcs
Jack Guirey	GIS Data Analyst	Great Lakes Commission
Andrew Haring	Manager, Policy and Legislative Affairs	Great Lakes Fishery Commission
Rep. Patrick Harkins	State Representative	PA House of Representatives
Annika Harley	PhD Candidate	University of Toronto
Jean-Francois Hould	Chief Representative	Délégation du Québec à Chicago
Matt Hudson	Associate Director - Great Lakes	Burke Center for Ecosystem Research
Edo Jakupovic	Coordonnateur des relations internationales	Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune, et des Parcs
Jasmine Jarjour	Director	International Joint Commission
James Jennings	Director	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Erika Jensen	Executive Director	Great Lakes Commission
Frederic Lecomte	Scientific Advisor	Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune, et des Parcs
Yu-Feng Lin	Director	Illinois Water Resources Center
Leo Luong	Director - Great Lakes and Inland Waters Branch	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
Erin McCarville	Vice President of Programs	Great Lakes Protection Fund
Christopher McClain	President	The McClain Corporation
Gregory McClinchey	Director, Policy and Legislative Affairs	Great Lakes Fishery Commission
Diamond McGahey	Indigenous Land Guardian	Chippewas of The Thames First Nation

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Chris McLaughlin	Executive Director	Bay Area Restoration Council
Mary Mertz	Director	Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Catherine Middleton	Professor	Toronto Metropolitan University
Josh Miller	Director of Programs	Great Lakes Commission
Angela Mish	Graduate Student	University of Wisconsin Milwaukee
JC Nelson	Acting Deputy Regional Director	U.S. Geological Survey
Kay Nelson	Commissioners	Northwest Indiana Forum
Tammy Newcomb	Special Advisor to the Director	Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Eric Oberhart	Program Director	Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers
Carolyn O'Neill	Manager - Great Lakes Office	Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Kalindi Parikh	Strategy Director	Current
Carl Platz	Civil Engineer/Program Manager	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Rick Pohlman	OWR Capital Programs Division Manager	Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Earl Provost	Ontario Agent-General	Ontario Trade & Investment Office - Chicago
Sen. Ann Rest	MN Senate President Pro-Tem	MN State Senate
Hannah Reynolds	Administrative Coordinator	Great Lakes Commission
Kisha Santiago	Deputy Secretary of State	NYS Department of State
Faith Sayavong	Sr. Analyst, Great Lakes Office	Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Armelle Simo	Analyst	Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune, et des Parc
Michael Simpson	CEO	M.E. Simpson Co., Inc,
Julie Slomski	Executive Director	Erie-Western Pennsylvania Port Authority
Marc Smith	Director, Conservation Partnerships	National Wildlife Federation
Chris Smith	Deputy Director	Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Dr. Ahmed Soliman	Associate Professor	Concordia University
Vanessa Steigerwald Dick	Environmental Scientist	Ohio EPA
Mark Shriberg	Director	University of Michigan Water Center at the Graham Sustainability Institute
Mike Snyder	Ocean and Great Lakes Program Manager	NYS Department of State
Wade Strickland	Director, Office of Great Waters	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Polly Synk	Division Chief	Department of Attorney General

Name	Title	Organization
Samantha Tank	Program Manager	Great Lakes Commission
Peter Tester	Deputy Commissioner	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Adam Tindall-Schlicht	Sector Lead	Ramboll
Carla Torchia	Manager	Canada Water Agency
Cynthia Torkelson	n/a	Retired
Rep. Paul Torkelson	State Representative	Minnesota
Jeff Tyson	Program Manager	Great Lakes Fishery Commission
Marnie Urso	Senior Policy Director	Audubon Great Lakes
Josh Valder	Science Coordinator, Regional Tribal Liaison	U.S. Geological Survey
Sara Walling	Water & Agriculture Program Director	Clean Water
Jeffrey Walters	Director, U.S. Relations	Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs, International Relations and Protocol
Beth Wanamaker	Communications Director	Great Lakes Commission
James Weakley	President	Lake Carriers' Association
Kendell Wegg	Indigenous Land Guardian	Chippewa Of The Thames First Nation
Nick Zager	Chief of the Operations Division	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers