



## 2026 Great Lakes Commission Annual Meeting

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

### Draft Agenda: October 6, 2026

ALL TIMES EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME

| Tuesday, October 6, 2026 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.   | <b>GLC Commissioner Work Session (Commissioners and Staff Only)</b><br><i>Location: Trinity Ballroom. Boxed lunches provided.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GLC Programmatic updates</li> <li>U.S. Federal priorities discussion</li> </ul> |
| 12:15 – 5:15 p.m.        | <b>Tommy Thompson Park and Don River Waterfront Revitalization Tour (Open to all)</b><br><i>Buses will depart the Marriott promptly at 12:30 p.m.</i><br><i>Refer to detailed logistics email for more information.</i>                                  |

| Wednesday, October 7, 2026                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Great Lakes Commission Annual Meeting</b><br><i>Location: Trinity Ballroom</i> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                   |
| 7:30 a.m.                                                                         | Registration and breakfast buffet                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                   |
| 8:30 a.m.                                                                         | Call to order and roll call                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Tim Bruno, Great Lakes Commission (GLC) Chair and Great Lakes Program Coordinator, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection            |
| 8:45 a.m.                                                                         | Welcome to Toronto                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                   |
| 9:05 a.m.                                                                         | <b>Business of the Great Lakes Commission</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and approval of agenda</li> <li>Approval of 2026 Semiannual Meeting minutes</li> <li>Report of the Chair</li> <li>Climate Resilience Committee Report</li> <li>Plastic Pollution Ad Hoc Committee Report</li> <li>Presentation of resolutions and action items</li> <li>Report of the Executive Director</li> </ul> | Tim Bruno, GLC Chair<br><br>Kay Nelson, Commissioner, Indiana<br>James Jennings, GLC Vice Chair, Illinois<br><br>Erika Jensen, Executive Director |
| 10:05 a.m.                                                                        | Remarks by The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                   |

|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10:25 a.m. | Break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 10:40 a.m. | <p>Canadian Federal-Provincial Jurisdiction, Policy and Agreements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water management in Ontario</li> <li>Canada-Ontario Agreement for the Great Lakes</li> <li>Québec-Canada Intergovernmental Relations</li> </ul> | <p>Leo Luong, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks</p> <p>Carolyn O'Neill, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks</p> <p>Carla Torchia, Canada Water Agency</p> <p>Jean-Pierre Forgues, Secrétariat du Québec aux relations canadiennes (Virtual)</p> <p>Pierre-Luc Gravel, Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune, et des Parcs</p> |
| 11:40 a.m. | Observer Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | GLC Observers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 12:00 p.m. | Lunch buffet                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1:00 p.m.  | VIP Remarks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1:15 p.m.  | <p>Superior to St. Lawrence: Emerging water quality issues from across the basin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lake Superior HABs</li> <li>Gulf of St. Lawrence</li> </ul>                                                                       | <p>Matt Hudson, Burke Center for Ecosystem Research</p> <p>Armelle Simo, Direction de l'analyse des impacts des contaminants sur les milieux aquatiques (DAICMA), Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune, et des Parcs (Virtual)</p>                                                                                                                                             |
| 2:00 p.m.  | Brandon Road Interbasin Project                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <p>James Jennings, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency</p> <p>Rick Pohlman, Illinois Department of Natural Resources</p> <p>Tammy Newcomb, Michigan Department of Natural Resources</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 2:30 p.m.  | Observer Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | GLC Observers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 3:00 p.m.  | Break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 3:15 p.m.  | Invasive mussel control efforts and Lake Whitefish restoration                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p>Moderator: Samantha Tank, Great Lakes Commission</p> <p>Bo Bunnell, U.S. Geological Survey</p> <p>Doug Craven, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians</p> <p>Jeff Tyson, Great Lakes Fishery Commission</p> <p>Lindsay Chadderton, The Nature Conservancy</p>                                                                                                                                                                |

|                     |                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4:30 p.m.           | Honouring Water, Inspiring Change:<br>The Deshkan Zibing Indigenous Guardians'<br>Journey in Ontario          | Taylor Deleary, Diamond McGahey,<br>Kendell Wegg, and Callin Deleary,<br>Indigenous Guardians, Chippewas of the<br>Thames First Nation |
| 5:00 p.m.           | Adjourn for the day                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                        |
| 5:30 –<br>7:30 p.m. | Reception featuring the <a href="#">Biinaagami Giant Floor Map</a><br><i>Location: Trinity Ballroom Foyer</i> |                                                                                                                                        |

| Thursday, October 8, 2026 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 a.m.                 | Registration and breakfast buffet                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 8:30 a.m.                 | Call to order                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Tim Bruno, GLC Chair                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 8:35 a.m.                 | VIP Remarks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 8:55 a.m.                 | Regional Shipbuilding Study                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Eric Oberhart, Great Lakes-St. Lawrence<br>Governors and Premiers                                                                                                                                                   |
| 9:15 a.m.                 | Dredged material management and beneficial reuse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>USACE Activities</li> <li>Ohio perspectives and case studies</li> <li>Valorization of dredged sediments as sustainable construction materials</li> </ul> | Nick Zager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers –<br>Detroit District (Virtual)<br>Dr. Vanessa Steigerwald Dick, Ohio<br>Environmental Protection Agency (Virtual)<br>Dr. Ahmed Soliman, Concordia University<br>(Virtual) |
| 10:15 a.m.                | Break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 10:30 a.m.                | The Story of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative: Past, Present, and Future of Great Lakes Stewardship                                                                                                                                        | Dr. Marc Gaden, Great Lakes Fishery Commission<br>Dr. Mike Shriberg, University of Michigan                                                                                                                         |
| 11:00 a.m.                | Awards and Recognitions                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Erika Jensen, GLC Executive Director                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 11:20 a.m.                | Business of the Great Lakes Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resolutions and action items</li> </ul>                                                                                                                            | Tim Bruno, GLC Chair                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 11:50 a.m.                | Nominating Committee Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Election of Officers</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                               | Emily Fennell, Commissioner, Michigan                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 11:55 a.m.                | Invitation to 2027 Great Lakes Day and GLC Semiannual Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                    | Erika Jensen, GLC Executive Director                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 12:00 p.m.                | Closing remarks and adjournment                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Tim Bruno, GLC Chair                                                                                                                                                                                                |