

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

January 3, 2018

The Honourable Catherine McKenna
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
200 Sacré-Coeur Boulevard, 2nd Floor
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3, Canada

Dear Minister McKenna:

We write to express our interest in a proposal that would establish a process to create a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) for the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River in Canada.

We understand that mayors, industry, non-governmental organizations, fishery advocates, tribal governments, and the Federal and provincial governments have been engaging in a collaborative process to develop such a plan for Great Lakes-St. Lawrence investments. We encourage you to fully consider this proposed process.

In the United States, we have witnessed the positive ecological, environmental, and economic benefits of coordinated, strategic federal Great Lakes investment. The GLRI has provided more than \$2 billion for Great Lakes protection and restoration and has been instrumental in restoring freshwater ecosystems, spurring economic opportunity, and redeveloping waterfront communities. The impact of the GLRI could be amplified and leveraged by a Canadian strategy for Great Lakes-St. Lawrence investments. In undertaking a collaborative process to develop such plan, our respective governments would be able to coordinate Great Lakes and St. Lawrence investment more strategically and, in turn, strengthen binational ties.

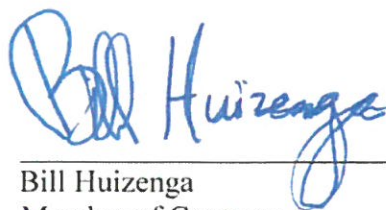
The Great Lakes region has made incredible strides since the GLRI's inception, but we still have significant work to do. By working together to protect the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River, we can continue to provide our region with drinking water for over 48 million people, 1.5 million jobs, and a \$5.8 trillion shared cross-border economy.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to continue working with the Government of Canada to protect and restore our region's shared water resources.

Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senate
Co-Chair, Canada-U.S. IPG



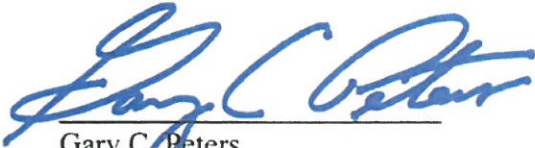
Bill Huizenga
Member of Congress
Co-Chair, Canada-U.S. IPG



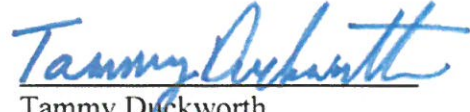
Debbie Stabenow
United States Senate



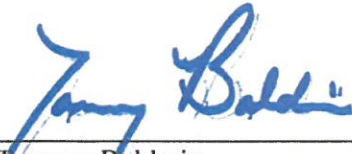
Richard J. Durbin
United States Senate




Gary C. Peters
United States Senate



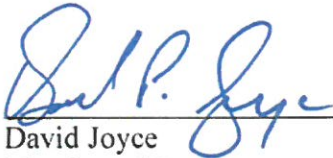
Tammy Duckworth
United States Senate



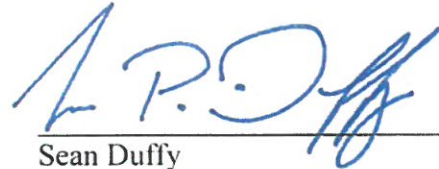
Tammy Baldwin
United States Senate



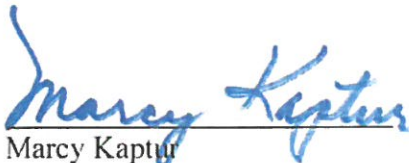
Sherrod Brown
United States Senate



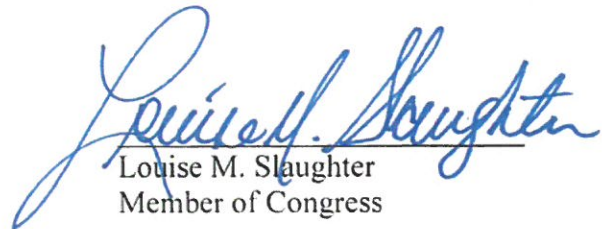
David Joyce
Member of Congress



Sean Duffy
Member of Congress



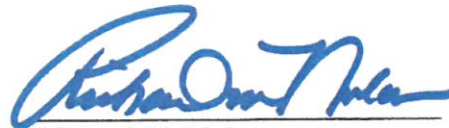
Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress



Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress



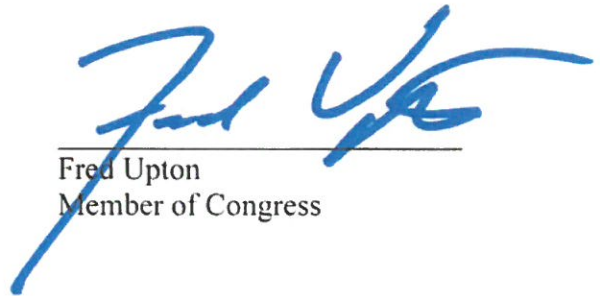
Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Richard M. Nolan
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



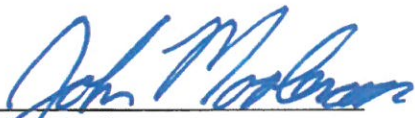
Fred Upton
Member of Congress



Ron Kind
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Paul Mitchell
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John Moolenaar
Member of Congress



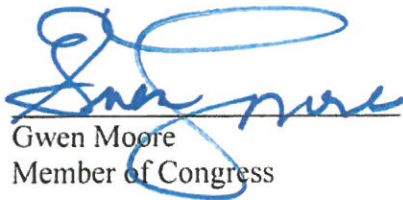
Jack Bergman
Member of Congress



Dan Kildee
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



Mike Bishop
Member of Congress

CC: The Honourable Wayne Easter, Co-Chair, Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group
CC: The Honourable Michael L. MacDonald, Co-Chair, Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group