

CGLR

COUNCIL OF THE GREAT LAKES REGION

LAUNCHING
APRIL 11-12, 2013
CLEVELAND, OHIO



ONLY IF WE LEARN TO THINK, SPEAK, AND ACT AS A REGION WILL WE MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE 21ST CENTURY: PROSPERITY AND SUSTAINABILITY.

WE NEED THE COUNCIL OF THE GREAT LAKES REGION.

The Great Lakes—St. Lawrence Region is at a crossroads. The region's economy is deeply integrated and its key natural resource—the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin—is a commons shared by over 105 million people.

Yet we do not consistently and strategically think, speak, and act as one region.

The challenges and opportunities faced by the region are shared. We must undertake the economic transformation necessary for renewed prosperity in a competitive 21st century global economy. And we must do this while ensuring clean air, water and energy.

The region has the natural resources, human capital and financial assets needed to meet these challenges—if we can bring together the region's many partnerships and bridge economic and environmental concerns.

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION. JOIN US IN LAUNCHING THE COUNCIL OF THE GREAT LAKES REGION.

A NEW REGIONAL ORGANIZATION TO ...

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CONNECT regional actors

INFORM decision-makers and the public

CULTIVATE a unified regional voice

PROMOTE the region's prosperity and sustainability

The CGLR will complement the region's existing organizations, fill existing gaps, and work on behalf of the region's interests

\$4.5 Trillion

GDP of the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence economy

105.6 Million

Population of Great Lakes—St. Lawrence Region

18 Per Cent

World's surface fresh water supplied by the Great Lakes

EVOLUTION OF THE CGLR

In June 2011, over 250 regional leaders from the government, business, labour, nonprofit, and academic communities convened in Detroit and Windsor. The Summit sought to identify ways to collaborate across the border to enhance economic transformation and ensure the prosperity and sustainability of the region.

There was broad consensus at the Summit on the need to create a new organization to effectively tackle the region's challenges and capitalize on its significant assets. So was born the **Detroit-Windsor Consensus**.

The Mowat Centre, the Canada-U.S. Law Institute, and our partners are launching the CGLR to move this consensus forward.

DETROIT-WINDSOR CONSENSUS

Mature regional collaboration is key if the region is to meet its shared challenges, take advantage of its shared opportunities, and once again lead growth and prosperity in Canada and the U.S.

A new organization to convene leaders from different sectors and jurisdictions is essential.



DO WE REALLY NEED ANOTHER REGIONAL ORGANIZATION?

The Great Lakes—St. Lawrence Region already has a significant number of successful cross-border collaborations, especially on issues of water stewardship and management. Many existing organizations convene stakeholders, conduct research, share knowledge, or mount outreach campaigns within a given sector, policy area, or jurisdiction.

Yet the region lacks the capacity to combine and deliver these activities, across borders and sectors, with the effectiveness required to drive prosperity in the 21st century. No one existing organization speaks for the region's interrelated long-term economic and ecological interests.

The CGLR will fill this gap by providing the region's organizations and initiatives with the core services of networking, research, knowledge sharing, and outreach, as needed.

The CGLR will be comprised of regional stakeholders. It will convene organizations for common purpose, and will seek to amplify their collective voices and expand their impact.

The Great Lakes—St. Lawrence Region is comprised of two provinces, eight states, over forty First Nations, and numerous Canadian and U.S. regional authorities.

The Great Lakes are a chain of 5 large freshwater lakes covering an area of 95,000 square miles—the largest lake group in the world.

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It will take a broad network of actors—corporate, civic, university, philanthropic, elected, federal, state, and local—to create the Next Economy in the Great Lakes region.

- The Brookings Institution

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BENEFITS OF THE CGLR

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Greater collaboration between the region's existing organizations

Quick response with common action on shared regional challenges

Deeper partnerships and knowledge sharing across the region

Increased influence on federal policymakers

Streamlined cross-border activity with simplified regulations

Stronger collaboration between business and environmental leaders

A unified voice on widely-shared interests

WHAT IS THE CGLR?

The CGLR will be a regional organization to coordinate and support ongoing regional collaboration efforts and case-by-case responses to emerging regional challenges.

The CGLR will represent a broad coalition of the region's existing organizations from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

The CGLR will be an incorporated nonprofit led by an independent board and a small staff, with issue-focused working groups.

Specific activities and events will be decided by staff and the board of directors. Proposed activities include: preparing major research papers, developing region-wide sectoral strategies, hosting networking events and conferences, convening cross-sectoral dialogues on major issues, coordinating public outreach campaigns, preparing presentations to governments on issues, managing an online collaboration and social networking space for the region, and sharing knowledge about partnership opportunities.

Our annual summit will be a public focal point for our activities.





WHAT WILL THE CGLR ACHIEVE?

The CGLR will magnify the work and voices of member organizations to cultivate a unified regional voice, informing federal decision-makers and the public about the region’s shared interests, initiatives, challenges, and solutions.

The CGLR will bring stakeholders from multiple sectors and jurisdictions together to generate policy and operational solutions to regional challenges. We expect provincial, state, federal, and municipal governments to participate in policy discussions with business, environmental, and civil society leaders to shape the region’s path to sustainable growth.

The CGLR will catalyze consensus-building around key shared interests and proposed initiatives.

In the end, the CGLR will help fill an over-arching gap that is holding back the region’s prosperity: **effective and coordinated public sector, private sector, and civil society responses to our shared challenges.**

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Who has the power to convene? To bring together the regional players, including the government, corporate, non-governmental and others?... Part of what will make the region even greater is the creation of a fabric of relationships.

- Alan Broadbent, Chairman
Maytree Foundation and Avana Capital

ECONOMIC POWERHOUSE

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If the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence Region was its own country, it would rank among the world’s largest economies

The GDP of the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence economy is \$4.5 trillion or 27.5 per cent of combined GDP in Canada and the U.S.

There are approximately 49.5 million people employed in the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence Region

The Great Lakes support 25 per cent of Canada’s agricultural capacity

The Great Lakes—St. Lawrence Region is home to 50 per cent of Canadian and 20 per cent of U.S. manufacturing

Each year, the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence Region contributes \$232 billion to Canada-U.S. trade

The Great Lakes are directly linked to 1.5 million U.S. jobs and \$62 billion in annual U.S. wages

KEY NATURAL RESOURCE

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40 per cent of Canada's boundary with the U.S. is composed of water

The Great Lakes Basin contains over 350 species of fish

The Great Lakes provide drinking water to over 40 million households

The Great Lakes contain 84 per cent of North America's fresh water supply

The Great Lakes contain 18 per cent of the world's surface fresh water stores

Only 1 per cent of the waters of the Great Lakes are renewed each year by snow melt and rain

A REGIONAL VOICE FOR THE ECONOMY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The goals of the CGLR are to enhance prosperity, quality of life, and sustainability for the region's 105 million people through tangible, measurable projects.

A set of early priority projects for the CGLR will be finalized prior to our April 2013 launch in consultation with key stakeholders and early supporters. **Join us and have a say in shaping the CGLR's early projects.**

Some examples of early priority projects already proposed to us by multiple regional stakeholders include:

- **Small business support initiative** to twin US Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) in key Great Lakes cities with Canadian counterparts and find ways to reduce information and search costs for SMEs operating across the international border.
- **Infrastructure taskforce** to assess region-wide preparedness for extreme weather events and other climate change effects, identify success stories and sharable best practices, cost out solutions, and propose regulatory and financing strategies in the context of a more region-wide plan.
- **Regional Blue Economy strategy** to coordinate, leverage, and enhance the region's strengths in water-related research, technology, innovation, financing and advanced manufacturing.
- **Regional tourism initiative** to globally market the Great Lakes as a region to tourists and businesses and reduce regulatory impediments to offer "two-nation vacations/business passes" while respecting security concerns.



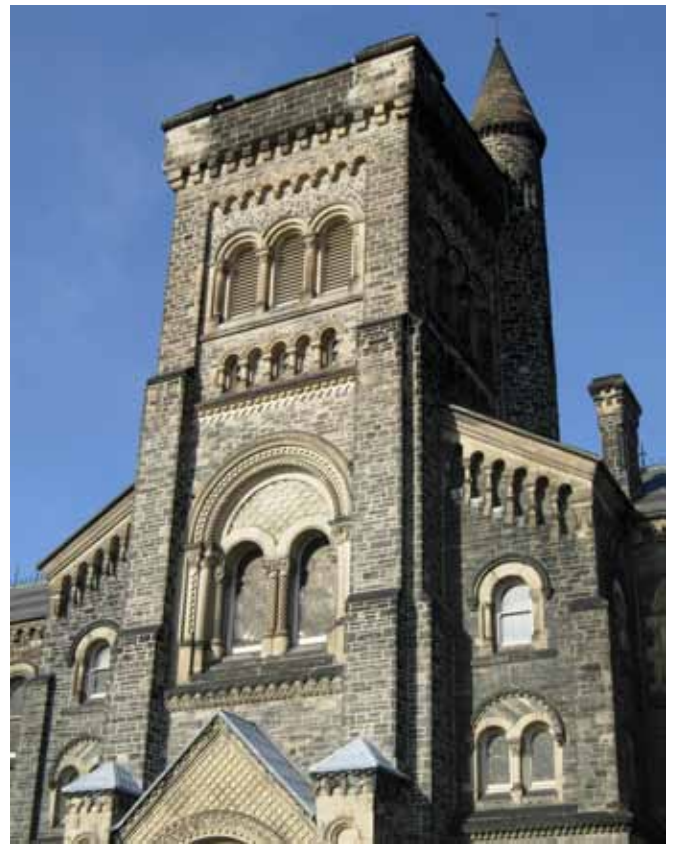
WHO IS LAUNCHING THE CGLR?



The Mowat Centre

The Mowat Centre is an independent public policy research centre located at the School of Public Policy & Governance at the University of Toronto.

The Mowat Centre is Ontario's non-partisan, evidence-based voice on public policy. It undertakes collaborative applied policy research, proposes innovative research-driven recommendations, and engages in public dialogue on Canada's most important national issues.



Canada • United States
LAW INSTITUTE

The Canada-United States Law Institute

The Canada-U.S. Law Institute (CUSLI) is a bi-national, nonprofit, multi-disciplinary entity created jointly in 1976 by Case Western Reserve University School of Law in Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A. and the Faculty of Law, University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, Canada.

CUSLI serves as a forum where the respective governments, business communities, legal professionals, academics, non-governmental organizations and the media explore and address the issues confronting the Canada-U.S. relationship.



The Mowat Centre and CUSLI, together with our partners, will steward the CGLR toward its successful launch.



Home to 20 per cent of the world's fresh water supplies and one of its most dynamic regional economies, the success of the Great Lakes region is crucial to the future of our two countries. The launch of the Council of the Great Lakes Region will propel forward the states and provinces of our region, advancing the key issues that will grow our economy, protect our environment, and improve the well-being of our citizens.

- Gary Doer, Canadian Ambassador to the United States

The Great Lakes are the heartland of North America and support one of the most vibrant regional economies in the world. We look forward to the launch of the Council of the Great Lakes Region to help provide a united voice and convening authority for the eight states and two provinces of the region.

- David Jacobson, United States Ambassador to Canada

Mature regional collaboration needs to be guided by a strategic regional outlook and sustained by effective regional knowledge sharing. Without mature collaboration, the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence Region may fail to adequately prepare for, or capitalize on, the significant opportunities that lie ahead of us.

- Jim Blanchard and Jim Peterson, Co-Chairs, CGLR Launch

WHAT CAN I DO?

**SUPPORT OUR LAUNCH OR
BECOME A CHARTER MEMBER**
Contact greatlakes@mowatcentre.ca

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR MAILING LIST
At www.councilgreatlakesregion.org

JOIN US AT OUR LAUNCH
April 11-12, 2013 in Cleveland, Ohio

