

Great Lakes Executive Committee Meeting Summary
December 4, 2018

WELCOME REMARKS AND BUSINESS ITEMS

Following a First Nations opening ceremony by Councillor Cathie Jamieson from the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, Great Lakes Executive Committee (GLEC) Co-Chairs, Michael Goffin (Environment and Climate Change Canada) and Chris Korleski (United States Environmental Protection Agency) opened the meeting with welcoming remarks.

Due to December 5th being designated as a National Day of Mourning in the United States to acknowledge and honor the service of President George H. W. Bush, the two-day agenda was reduced to a one-day meeting. The meeting focused on key upcoming deliverables, including 1) the 2019 Great Lakes Public Forum, 2) the 2019 State of the Great Lakes, 3) the 2019 Progress Report of the Parties, and 4) 2020-2022 Priorities for Science and Action; as well as discussions from the Chemicals of Mutual Concern and Nutrients Annexes, and a special session on Invasive Mussels.

It was noted that the action items from the June 2018 GLEC meeting were completed or were underway and would be discussed during the meeting.

A list of meeting attendees can be found in Appendix A.

ACTION: The GLEC Secretariat was to explore a follow-up GLEC teleconference to bring forward agenda items not discussed at the December 2018 GLEC meeting; however due to the subsequent partial government shutdown in the U.S. and the need to focus on preparations for the Great Lakes Public Forum, a follow-up teleconference was not held.

2019 GREAT LAKES PUBLIC FORUM, 2019 PROGRESS REPORT OF THE PARTIES AND 2020-2022 PRIORITIES FOR SCIENCE AND ACTION

James Schardt (GLEC Secretariat, United States Environmental Protection Agency) discussed the outline and structure of the three-day 2019 Great Lakes Public Forum, including:

- Key messages – “the importance of binational cooperation” and “highlighting implementation successes by GLEC membership agencies that help achieve the objectives of the Agreement.”
- Elements of the agenda being considered: State of Great Lakes; implementation progress by GLEC membership agencies, organized by Annexes; draft 2020-2022 Binational Priorities for Science and Action organized by Annexes; the Great Lakes Summit; and a session for the International Joint Commission to seek input from the public.

Carla Torchia (GLEC Secretariat, Environment and Climate Change Canada) discussed the draft 2019 Progress Report of the Parties, which was shared with meeting participants for feedback and input. Carla provided an overview of the structure of the report and the timelines towards the publication of the report in advance of the 2019 Great Lakes Public Forum, highlighting opportunity for GLEC Member review and agency reviews. Carla also spoke to the timeline and process for finalizing the draft 2020-2022 Binational Priorities for Science and Action, highlighting opportunity for GLEC Member review and the subsequent public review opportunity following the Forum prior to their finalization.

Later during the meeting, Annex Co-Leads presented proposed Annex-specific Priorities.

ACTION: GLEC members were asked to review and provide input on the draft 2019 Progress Report of the Parties to the Secretariat by January 31, 2019.

ACTION: GLEC members were asked to review and provide comments on the draft 2020-2022 Binational Priorities for Science and Action to the Secretariat by January 31, 2019.

2019 STATE OF THE GREAT LAKES

Nancy Stadler-Salt (Environment and Climate Change Canada), State of the Great Lakes (SOGL) Indicator co-lead, provided an overview of the preliminary 2019 State of the Great Lakes findings for discussion.

The presentation focused on:

- The Status and Trends of each of the nine SOGL Indicators, as well as the Sub-Indicator information;
- The technical reviews/scientific confirmations that took place through webinars; and
- The timeline towards releasing the 2019 SOGL Highlights Report at the Forum.

ACTION: GLEC members were asked to review and provide comments on the 2019 State of the Great Lakes draft assessments and key findings by December 21, 2018 to the Indicator Leads with a Cc to the Secretariat.

CHEMICALS OF MUTUAL CONCERN (ANNEX 3)

Annex 3 Co-Leads, Tricia Mitchell (Environment and Climate Change Canada) and Mardi Klevs (United States Environmental Protection Agency), provided a status update on the development of Binational Strategies for Chemicals of Mutual Concern, as well as binational screening criteria for evaluating chemicals nominated as CMCs. Annex Co-Leads also provided highlights of key implementation efforts underway for all designated Chemicals of Mutual Concern, and discussed their proposed 2020-2022 Binational Priorities for Science and Action.

ACTION: Chemicals of Mutual Concern Annex Co-Leads were charged with completing outstanding action items from previous GLEC meetings.

NUTRIENTS (ANNEX 4)

Annex Co-Leads, Tricia Mitchell (Environment and Climate Change Canada) and Santina Wortman (United States Environmental Protection Agency), provided updates on binational activities (including the development of a *Binational Phosphorus Reduction Strategy*, public binational webinars, reporting through ErieStat, and the establishment of an Adaptive Management task team); the status of western Lake Erie blooms and Cladophora research being undertaken in lakes Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario; and, highlights of respective domestic action plan in place to address algal blooms in Lake Erie. Annex 4 Co-Leads also discussed their proposed 2020-2022 Binational Priorities for Science and Action.

INVASIVE MUSSELS

Erika Jensen from the Great Lakes Commission was invited to provide an overview of the Invasive Mussel Collaborative. Eric presented on the status of Dreissenid mussels, including their distribution; Control methods, including toxicants, physical tools, biological control and genetic tools; a near-term strategy of sustained control (i.e. suppression) at localized sites to mitigate impacts and generate larger benefits; and the Invasive Mussel Collaborative's recently released [*Strategy to Advance Management of Invasive Zebra and Quagga Mussels*](#).

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

1. The GLEC Secretariat was to explore a follow-up GLEC teleconference to bring forward agenda items not discussed at the December 2018 GLEC meeting; however, due to the subsequent partial government shutdown in the U.S. and the need to focus on preparations for the Great Lakes Public Forum, a follow-up teleconference was not held.
2. GLEC members were asked to review and provide input on the draft 2019 Progress Report of the Parties to the Secretariat (ec.aqegl-glwqa.ec@canada.ca; glwqa@epa.gov) by January 31, 2019.
3. GLEC members were asked to review and provide comments on the draft 2020-2022 Binational Priorities for Science and Action to the Secretariat by January 31, 2019.
4. GLEC members were asked to review and provide comments on the 2019 State of the Great Lakes draft assessments and key findings by December 21, 2018 to the Indicator Leads, with a Cc to the Secretariat (nancy.stadler-salt@canada.ca; nettesheim.todd@epa.gov; ec.aqegl-glwqa.ec@canada.ca; glwqa@epa.gov).
5. Chemicals of Mutual Concern Annex Co-Leads were charged with completing outstanding action items from previous GLEC meetings.

GLEC MEETING PARTICIPANTS DECEMBER 4, 2018

Canadian Participants

1. Paul Allen – International Joint Commission
2. Antonette Arvai – International Joint Commission (remotely)
3. Sean Backus – Environment and Climate Change Canada
4. Bruce Bateman, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
5. Jennifer Boehme – International Joint Commission (remotely)
6. Emma Bowley, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
7. Cynthia Brown – Environment and Climate Change Canada
8. Terri Bulman, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
9. David Burden – International Joint Commission
10. Mark Burrows – International Joint Commission (remotely)
11. Stacey Cherwaty – Environment and Climate Change Canada (remotely)
12. Matthew Child – International Joint Commission
13. Gavin Christie – Fisheries and Oceans Canada
14. Peter Clarke – Environment and Climate Change Canada
15. Steve Clement – Environment and Climate Change Canada (remotely)
16. Sally Cole-Misch – International Joint Commission (remotely)
17. Russell Consor – International Joint Commission
18. David Copplestone – Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (remotely)
19. Diane de Beaumont – Environment and Climate Change Canada
20. Melissa DeYoung – Pollution Probe (remotely)
21. Christine Elwell – Sierra Club Ontario
22. Elizabeth Everhardus – Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
23. Natalija Vojno Fisher – Canadian Freshwater Alliance
24. Bonnie Fox – Conservation Ontario
25. Jon Gee – Environment and Climate Change Canada
26. Sarah Gewurtz – Environment and Climate Change Canada (remotely)
27. Scott Gilbert – Fisheries and Oceans Canada
28. Michael Goffin – Environment and Climate Change Canada
29. Nancy Goucher – Water Institute, University of Waterloo (remotely)
30. John Higham, Transport Canada
31. Susan Humphrey – Environment and Climate Change Canada
32. Jessica Isaac – Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
33. John Jackson – Toxics Free Great Lakes Network
34. Suzanne Jakoben, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
35. Councillor Cathie Jamieson – Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation
36. Carolyn Johns – Great Lakes Policy Research Network and Ryerson University (remotely)
37. Pamela Lamba, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
38. Shaffina Kassam – Environment and Climate Change Canada
39. Jenique Kennedy – Environment and Climate Change Canada
40. Sandra Kok – Environment and Climate Change Canada (remotely)
41. Gail Krantzberg – McMaster University (remotely)
42. Ash Kumar – Environment and Climate Change Canada

43. Alesia Kurlek – Environment and Climate Change Canada
44. Suzanne LaPerrière – Public Services and Procurement Canada
45. Anastasia Lintner – Canadian Environmental Law Association (remotely)
46. Madhu Malhotra – Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change Climate Change (remotely)
47. Ling Mark – Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
48. Valerie Marshall – Health Canada (remotely)
49. Catherine Marsden – Dillon Consulting Limited (remotely)
50. John Marsden
51. Catherine Masson – Consultant
52. Andrew McAllister – Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
53. Andrew McCammon – Ontario Headwaters Institute
54. Megan McCusker – Environment and Climate Change Canada
55. Felicia Minotti – Global Affairs Canada
56. Tricia Mitchell – Environment and Climate Change Canada
57. Karen Moore, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
58. Maggie Norris – University of Waterloo (remotely)
59. Carolyn O’Neill – Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
60. Jacob Orlandi, Environment and Climate Change Canada
61. Anne Randell – Georgian Bay Forever
62. Sarah Rang – Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
63. Cheryl Recollet – Chiefs of Ontario
64. Paul Recollet
65. Vi Richardson – Environment and Climate Change Canada (remotely)
66. Linda Robertson – Environment and Climate Change Canada (remotely)
67. Harman Sandhu – Environment and Climate Change Canada
68. Kelsey Scarfone – Environmental Defence Canada
69. Rebecca Schroeder – Invasive Species Centre (remotely)
70. Lisa Sealock – Environment and Climate Change Canada (remotely)
71. Shannon Seko – Transport Canada, Ontario Region
72. Julie Simard – Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (remotely)
73. Nancy Stadler-Salt – Environment and Climate Change Canada
74. Anne Stewart – Georgian Bay Association
75. David Sweetnam – Georgian Bay Forever
76. Carla Torchia – Environment and Climate Change Canada
77. Dale Van Stempvoort – Environment and Climate Change Canada
78. Sara Varty – Environment and Climate Change Canada (remotely)
79. Pam Veinotte – Parks Canada Agency
80. Shivani Vigneswaran – Environment and Climate Change Canada (remotely)
81. Lizhu Wang – International Joint Commission (remotely)
82. April White – Environment and Climate Change Canada (remotely)
83. Chris Wiley – Transport Canada Marine Safety and Security Ontario Region
84. John Wilson – International Joint Commission (remotely)
85. Tracy Wright – Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
86. Ram Yerubandi – Environment and Climate Change Canada (remotely)

UNITED STATES PARTICIPANTS

87. Jon Allan – Michigan Office of the Great Lakes (remotely)
88. Rick Balla – United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 2
89. Edlynzia Barnes – United States Environmental Protection Agency (remotely)
90. CAPT Amy Beach – United States Coast Guard
91. Sandy Bihn, Lake Erie Waterkeeper
92. Tim Bruno – Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
93. Michelle Caldwell – Indiana Department of Environmental Management (remotely)
94. Jennifer Day – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
95. Steve Galarneau – Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
96. Gail Hesse – National Wildlife Federation (remotely)
97. Rick Hobrla – Michigan Office of the Great Lakes (remotely)
98. Jon Hortness – United States Geological Survey (remotely)
99. Mic Isham – Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission
100. Lisa Janairo – Council of State Governments (remotely)
101. Erika Jensen – Great Lakes Commission
102. Jessica Jock – Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe
103. Tyler Kaspar – 1854 Treaty Authority (remotely)
104. Tiffani Kavalec – Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
105. Mardi Klevs – United States Environmental Protection Agency
106. Chris Korleski – United States Environmental Protection Agency
107. Roger Knight – Great Lakes Fishery Commission (remotely)
108. Hala Kuss – Indiana Department of Environmental Management (remotely)
109. Bob Lambe – Great Lakes Fishery Commission
110. Debbie Lee, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory
111. Shannon Lotthammer – Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (remotely)
112. Edwin Martinez – United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (remotely)
113. Caroline Moellering – Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians (remotely)
114. Sara Moses – Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (remotely)
115. Michael Murray – National Wildlife Federation (remotely)
116. Sonny Myers – 1854 Treaty Authority
117. Todd Nettesheim – United States Environmental Protection Agency (remotely)
118. Linda Nguyen – Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (remotely)
119. Darren Nichols, Great Lakes Commission
120. Victoria Pebbles, Great Lakes Commission
121. Dale Phenicie – Council of Great Lakes Industries
122. Carl Platz, United States Army Corps of Engineers
123. Howard Reeves – United States Geological Survey
124. James Schardt – United States Environmental Protection Agency
125. Victor Serveiss – International Joint Commission
126. Micheal Smith – Nuclear Regulatory Commission (remotely)
127. Rachel So – Department of State (remotely)
128. Stephanie Swart – Michigan, Office of the Great Lakes (remotely)
129. Lorne Thomas – United States Coast Guard
130. Naomi Tillison – Bad River Band Of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians (remotely)

131. Marc Tuchman – United States Environmental Protection Agency
132. Jennifer Vanator – Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission
133. Mike Weimer – United States Fish and Wildlife Service (remotely)
134. Charles Wooley – United States Fish and Wildlife Service (remotely)
135. Santina Wortman – United States Environmental Protection Agency (remotely)
136. Don Zelazny – New York Department of Environmental Conservation