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July 24, 2023

Mr. Wayne Emmerson  
Chairman and CEO  
Region of York  
[wayne.emmerson@york.ca](mailto:wayne.emmerson@york.ca)

Dear Chairman Emmerson,

As the recently-elected chair of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, it is my distinct pleasure to write you in order to encourage York Region to become actively engaged with our organization, of which you and the region are a member. Understanding that you may not have the capacity for yourself to be actively engaged with the Cities Initiative, we do offer the possibility for our member mayors and municipal executives to name a delegate to work more regularly with our staff and members.

Upper tier municipalities, such as regional municipalities, offer unique viewpoints to our staff and fellow members that are important to consider when developing policy proposals and guide our program development. As such, I am committed to ensuring that upper tier municipalities that are members of the Cities Initiative are given the opportunity to make the most of being part of our organization.

At our recent annual general meeting, we were delighted to have the presence of Mayor Tom Mrakas of the Town of Aurora and would recommend him as an excellent candidate to serve as your delegate for participating in Cities Initiative activities. From the Cities Initiative's perspective, we simply need a letter affirming your choice of delegate and we will do the appropriate follow-up with the delegate of your choice.

On behalf of the Cities Initiative, thank you for being a member of the Cities Initiative and supporting a binational coalition of more than 230 mayors and local elected leaders dedicated to advancing the environmental and socioeconomic health of communities in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin. Working together, we can achieve great things to secure our freshwater resources, while also advancing sustainable economic growth in the basin.

Sincerely,

Gino Moretti,  
Mayor, Municipalité de Saint-Anicet  
Chair, Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative

CC: Mayor Tom Mrakas, Town of Aurora