

Adopted by Council at its meeting held May 22, 2012 [M256-2012]

/AA

Windsor, Ontario May 22, 2012

**REPORT NO. 61 of the  
ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE**  
of its meeting held April 25, 2012

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**Present:** Councillor Hatfield, Chair  
Councillor Halberstadt  
Councillor Sleiman  
Councillor Valentinis

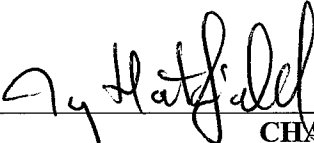
**Regrets:** Councillor Payne

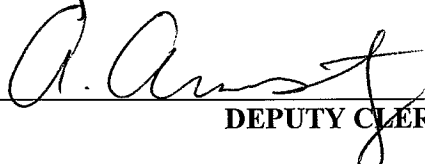
That the following recommendations of the Environment and Transportation Standing Committee **BE APPROVED:**

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by Councillor Valentinis,  
**THAT** Report No. 63 of the Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee regarding the Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem **BE ADOPTED** as presented.

Carried.

*Clerk's Note:* Report No. 63 of the Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee (Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem) is attached as background information.

  
CHAIRPERSON

  
DEPUTY CLERK

NOTIFICATION:				
Name	Address	Email Address	Telephone	FAX
Mary Brennan		<a href="mailto:mbrennan@countyofessex.on.ca">mbrennan@countyofessex.on.ca</a>		
WECEC members including resource				



# ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE

REPORT NO. 63  
of the  
WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (WECEC)  
of its meeting held  
March 29, 2012  
at 5:30 o'clock p.m.  
Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant, 4155 Ojibway Parkway

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**Members Present at the March 29, 2012 meeting:**

Councillor Alan Halberstadt, Co-Chair  
Charlie Wright, Co-Chair  
Councillor Hilary Payne  
Shahbaz Ahmed  
Matthew Child  
Derek Coronado  
Rick Coronado  
Roger Dzugan (alternate for Mark Bartlett)  
Karen Fallon  
Paul Henshaw  
Phil Roberts  
Tamara Stomp

**Your Committee submits the following recommendation:**

Moved by M. Child, seconded by P. Henshaw,

**WHEREAS** the Great Lakes are the world's largest surface freshwater resource, support one of the world's largest economies and are a fundamental part of the cultural and social fabric of millions of Canadians and Americans; and

**WHEREAS** the lower Great Lakes, and Lake Erie in particular, have experienced worsening water quality in recent years, especially harmful algal blooms which impair water quality, fish and wildlife populations and aesthetic values; and,

**WHEREAS** a key driver of these impairments is nutrient loadings from non-point sources throughout the watersheds draining to the lower Great Lakes, and nutrient cycling within the lakes which is influenced by a variety of factors including aquatic invasive species and climate variability; and,

**WHEREAS** improving water quality in the lower Great Lakes will require extensive and coordinated action of governments, commerce, communities and residents; and,

**WHEREAS** the binational *Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement* renegotiation is currently nearing completion, and the renewed Agreement is expected to compel the governments of Canada and the United States to effectively address non-point sources of nutrients to the lower Great Lakes; and,

**WHEREAS** the *Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem* is a principal mechanism for cooperative environmental progress on the Great Lakes in Canada, and the current Agreement will expire in June, 2012;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee urges the governments of Canada and Ontario to renew and increase their investment in the *Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem* prior to June, 2012 and ensure the Agreement has an effective and substantial emphasis on mitigation of nutrient loadings to Lake Erie and factors influencing nutrient cycling within the Lake.

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the Councils of the City of Windsor and the County of Essex for their endorsement.

Carried.

<b>NOTIFICATION:</b>		
Mary Brennan, Director of Council Service/Clerk, County of Essex	<a href="mailto:mbrennan@countyofessex.on.ca">mbrennan@countyofessex.on.ca</a>	
WECEC members including resource		