



Quebec Working Group Update - Priorities for the St. Lawrence

The Cities Initiative has assembled a working group of Quebec mayors to identify issues and propose policy solutions to inform political leaders ahead of the Quebec provincial election this October. The working group, which includes Mayor Gino Moretti (Saint-Anicet), Mayor Maja Vodanovic (Lachine, Montreal), Mayor Nicolas Dufour (Repentigny) and Mayor Guy Caron (Rimouski), came together over the spring to identify St. Lawrence River priorities for our member municipalities in the context of the upcoming provincial election in October.

The group identified 13 policy ideas under 4 themes: coastal resilience; municipal water infrastructure; the blue economy; and plastic pollution.

Notably, the group is pushing for the province to increase its industrial and commercial water taking charges - a policy that was initially resisted by the government, but then was reversed before the parliamentary session adjourned. A bill was presented that will be re-introduced after the election (assuming the governing Coalition Avenir Québec party is re-elected).

The policy proposals have been shared with all major political parties, along with requests to meet with party representatives. A meeting took place in June with Quebec Liberal Party leader Dominique Anglade. You can read more about the policy proposals [here](#).

If you are interested in participating in our Quebec Working Group, please contact our Canada Policy Director, Phil Murphy-Rhéaume at phillipe.murphy-rheaume@glslcities.org.