FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cities Initiative Opposes New U.S. Tariffs on Canadian Goods

CHICAGO, IL – July 22, 2026 – Today, the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative expresses its firm opposition to this week's announcement of the potential for new, 50-percent U.S. tariffs on Canadian goods under Section 338 of the Tariff Act of 1930. If implemented, these additional tariffs would further undermine the stability of the U.S.-Canada trade relationship, especially since they would apply to goods previously shielded from tariffs by the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).

"The Cities Initiative calls on the United States to return to good-faith negotiations to preserve the USMCA, a trade agreement that significantly contributes to American national security and our US$9.3-trillion regional economy here in the Great Lakes," said Mayor Cavalier Johnson of Milwaukee, WI, the organization's current U.S. Chair. "The parties should be striving to strengthen the USMCA's capacity to deliver continued economic prosperity for our businesses and residents rather than taking unilateral actions that increase costs and perpetuate trade uncertainty."

Earlier this year, the Cities Initiative's U.S. members approved a resolution entitled ***Strengthening the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement to Support Economic Prosperity Across the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Region***. This resolution called on the United States to remain party to the USMCA while further operationalizing provisions impacting supply-chain resiliency and economic competitiveness.

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About the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative is a U.S. coalition of municipal and Indigenous government executives representing communities in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Region who are working to promote economic prosperity in our communities and protect our fresh water for the benefit of current and future generations. With more than 200 communities represented, the Cities Initiative is leading the way in advancing the environmental, economic, and social health of the region by addressing issues impacting its residents. In September 2025, the Cities Initiative launched its ***Economic Transformation Action Plan: A Blueprint for Economic Growth and Freshwater Stewardship in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Region***.

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