

Great Lakes Saint Lawrence Vision, Mission and Goals

VISION

The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River region is one where people, the environment, economy and cultures are healthy and thrive for generations to come.

MISSION

The people of the region will act as stewards to use and enjoy their natural treasures in ways that care for and improve them.

GOALS

Social

Social institutions give people the ability and knowledge they need to cherish and safeguard the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River, the skills and capacity to be productive and contribute, and the opportunity to enjoy a good quality of life.

- Education. The region has an educational system that teaches people to appreciate and respect the unique environment in which they live, and gives them the skills and capacity to participate in a knowledge-based economy.
- Health. Both the natural and built environments foster good health for all, high quality care is accessible to those who need it, and well-being is enhanced by employment, housing, recreational and cultural opportunities.
- Engagement. Individuals and public sector, private sector and non-governmental organizations actively work together to improve conditions in the region.

Environmental

A robust ecosystem provides the basis for a diverse and healthy community of plants, animals and people, as well as strong economic and social systems.

- Natural Environment. The biological, physical and chemical integrity of the Great Lakes and St Lawrence River supports natural biodiversity and ecosystem functions.
- Built Environment. The built environment of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence region is compatible with and enhances the natural environment.
- Adaptation to Change. People of the region engage in global efforts to mitigate social, economic and environmental change, and apply their combined resources to address local impacts.

Economic

The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence region has a vital economy and business climate that delivers quality goods and services to residents and beyond. There are job opportunities in all sectors with productivity and well-being assured through the wise use of natural and human resources, technology and capital.

- Business climate. Revitalised natural and built environments increase the region's attractiveness, with investments being made in enterprises that share the Vision for the region, underpinning social and environmental goals
- Employment. A workforce that is highly educated and motivated is attracted to the region by its environmental quality, social systems and the opportunities provided by its vibrant economy.
- Infrastructure. People and goods move with great efficiency and the lowest impact on the environment. Production is supported by sustainable use of available natural resources.

Recognizing the many interests (social, cultural, economic, environmental) and interdependencies among organizations in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence region, this vision can only be achieved by organizations working together.