

**RES.#R14/17 -**

**GREAT LAKES PROTECTION INITIATIVE**

To share Environment and Climate Change Canada's funding opportunities with Regional Watershed Alliance members and their networks.

Moved by: Jill Kelly  
Seconded by: Deb Schulte

**THAT the information on funding opportunities through the Great Lakes Protection Initiative be received;**

**AND FURTHER THAT members of the Regional Watershed Alliance are encouraged to discuss any collaboration opportunities with TRCA staff.**

**CARRIED**

**BACKGROUND**

Environment and Climate Change Canada announced a call for applications to eight Environmental Funding Programs, including funding under the *Great Lakes Protection Initiative* which includes the fund to **Restore Areas of Concern**, formerly known as the "**Great Lakes Sustainability Fund**."

Through the *Great Lakes Protection Initiative*, the Environment and Climate Change Canada takes action to address the most significant environmental challenges affecting Great Lakes water quality and ecosystem health by delivering on Canada's commitments under the Canada-United States Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

To help achieve this goal, the Environment and Climate Change Canada is making funding available to support action by others to:

- **Prevent toxic and nuisance algae:** Increasing participation in the application of phosphorus load reduction measures by demonstrating innovative approaches and best practices and promoting broad uptake and application.
- **Reduce releases of harmful chemicals:** Increasing participation in the application of beyond-compliance measures to reduce releases of chemicals of mutual concern by developing, implementing, assessing and promoting use of innovative approaches.
- **Engage Indigenous Peoples in addressing Great Lakes issues:** Enhancing Indigenous capacity to address Great Lakes issues through projects that engage Indigenous Peoples at the community level.
- **Increase public engagement through citizen science:** Enhancing Canadians' knowledge of and engagement in addressing Great Lakes issues through participation in citizen science.
- **Restore Areas of Concern:** Supporting action at the local level to restore water quality and aquatic ecosystem health by implementing projects identified in Area of Concern Remedial Action Plans.

The submission deadline for applications is **March 15, 2018** at 11:59PM EST.

The purpose of the 2018/19 Call for Proposals for the Restore Areas of Concern (AOC) fund is to solicit project proposals that will contribute towards the completion of necessary actions identified in the AOC's most current Remedial Action Plan (RAP) and/or Work Plan as this will facilitate the re-designation of beneficial use impairments (BUIs) and the eventual delisting of the AOC. With this in mind, please demonstrate clearly how your proposed project will contribute to the restoration of BUIs or achievement of delisting targets for an AOC. **Priority for funding will be given to those proposals that directly address projects/priority actions in current RAP**

**Stage 2/Stage 2 Update Reports and Implementation Work Plans for the AOC that you are applying under.**

To learn more about all of the Great Lakes Protection Initiative funding opportunities and how to apply, please visit:

[www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/great-lakes-protection/funding](http://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/great-lakes-protection/funding) or contact [ec.grandslacs-greatlakes.ec@canada.ca](mailto:ec.grandslacs-greatlakes.ec@canada.ca).

For general information on the *Great Lakes Protection Initiative*, please visit:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/great-lakes-protection.html>

**RATIONALE**

A number of new funding pools are now available through ECCC's Great Lakes Protection Initiative (GLPI). Several TRCA projects advance the goals of GLPI and are eligible to apply to at least one of the five funding streams. TRCA will also support collaboration with community groups and other agencies to help align initiatives, achieve desired results, efficiency and increased impact.

**DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE**

- Members of the Regional Watershed Alliance are encouraged to reach out to TRCA staff prior to Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 2018 should they wish to submit a grant proposal in collaboration with TRCA.

**Report prepared by: Valerie Francella, extension 5322**

**Attachments: 1**

**Emails: [Vfrancella@trca.on.ca](mailto:Vfrancella@trca.on.ca)**

**For Information contact: Nancy Gaffney, extension 5313**

**Emails: [nancy.gaffney@trca.on.ca](mailto:nancy.gaffney@trca.on.ca)**

**Date: February 12, 2018**

**Attachments: 1**