



Québec 

AGREEMENT

CONCERNING

TRANSBOUNDARY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO

AND

THE GOUVERNEMENT DU QUÉBEC

**THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO**  
represented by the Minister of the Environment  
and the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs  
and Minister Responsible for Democratic Renewal  
(hereinafter called « Ontario »)

**AND**

**THE GOUVERNEMENT DU QUÉBEC**  
represented by the ministre du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs  
et le ministre responsable des Affaires intergouvernementales canadiennes, de la  
Francophonie canadienne, de l'Accord sur le commerce intérieur, de la Réforme des  
institutions démocratiques et de l'Accès à l'information (hereinafter called « Québec »)

Hereinafter called « the Parties »

**WHEREAS** Québec and Ontario are both deeply concerned about issues relating to human health and the environment;

**WHEREAS** Québec and Ontario share a common boundary and may be potentially affected by transboundary environmental problems;

**WHEREAS** Québec and Ontario recognize that transboundary environmental impacts require mutual understanding and a commitment to environmental protection;

**WHEREAS** Québec and Ontario recognize the need to establish regular communications to address environmental issues that may adversely impact either or both Parties; and

**WHEREAS** Québec and Ontario will mutually benefit by sharing information and respective expertise and by potentially joining in studies or research projects that may have transboundary implications;

**WHEREAS** Québec and Ontario signed an Cooperation Agreement concerning Transboundary Environmental Impacts, in 1988;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Parties hereby agree to the following :

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT**

The Parties wish to encourage mutual understanding and cooperation on transboundary environmental issues, including, but not limited to :

- air quality and atmospheric pollutants;
- surface and groundwater management;
- monitoring and reduction of pollution in rivers, lakes and waterways;

- protecting, conserving and restoring the natural environment; and
- Great Lakes – St Lawrence watershed issues.

## **2. OBJECTIVES SOUGHT**

By entering into this Agreement, the Parties express their will to establish, in accordance with the laws, regulations and procedures of Québec and of Ontario, information exchange and joint cooperation mechanisms in areas related to transboundary environmental impacts between Québec and Ontario, with the following objectives:

- To promote sharing of information and expertise on transboundary environmental impacts;
- To identify sectors in which it is desirable to define joint projects and actions able to prevent and correct transboundary pollution;
- To jointly implement measures to prevent transboundary environmental impacts whenever both Parties deem it necessary;
- To apprise and consult with each other, whenever feasible, before permitting or undertaking any activity or project within their jurisdiction that may have the potential to cause significant adverse transboundary environmental impacts;
- To advise, consult and, potentially or where appropriate, assist each other in the event of any incident of natural or accidental origin that may have the potential to cause adverse transboundary environmental impacts;
- To advise, consult and, potentially or where appropriate, assist each other in the event of environmental terrorism directly or indirectly impacting the Parties;
- To encourage participation in the environmental assessment process of Québec and of Ontario related to any activity or project that may have the potential to cause significant adverse transboundary environmental impacts;
- To share scientific expertise about the natural environment and biodiversity of the territory with a view toward encouraging the sustainable development of environmental resources;
- To consult each other on major undertakings proposed in the Great Lakes – St Lawrence Watershed;
- To implement consultation and coordination mechanisms to promote cooperation and dialogue provided for in this Agreement, in accordance with the laws, regulations and procedures of Québec and of Ontario.

## **3. IMPLEMENTATION**

To fulfil these objectives, the Parties agree:

- A. To each designate a person as liaison for the implementation of the terms of this Agreement;
- B. To establish, within 90 days from the date this Agreement is signed, a joint task force that will meet at least once a year. This task force will:
  - Share information on issues related to transboundary environmental impacts on a regular basis;
  - Develop a plan and an annual programme to address the objectives set forth in Article 2, and oversee its implementation;
  - Report annually to respective Ministers of the Environment.

- C. Each Government shall be responsible for all internal respective costs that it incurs in the administration of this Agreement.
- D. If an outside party is contracted by the Parties to complete work developed under the auspices of this Agreement, costs of the outside party shall be shared on a 50%-50% basis by signatories to the Agreement.

#### 4. AMENDMENTS

To ensure efficiency in dealing with common transboundary environmental issues, the Parties may, by joint agreement, amend this Agreement at any time by exchange of letters.

#### 5. COMING INTO FORCE

This Agreement will be in force for a five-year period as of the date of its signature. It shall be renewed automatically for successive five-year periods unless one of the Parties sends a written notice of termination to the other party six months prior to the expiration date.

The Agreement between the Gouvernement du Québec and the Government of Ontario concerning Transboundary Environmental Impacts, made the 13<sup>th</sup> day of June 1988, is hereby terminated as of the date of this Agreement.

Signed on Ottawa this 2nd day of June 2006, in the French and English languages, both versions being equally authentic.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT  
OF ONTARIO

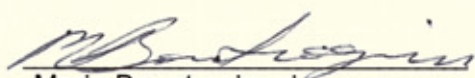


Laurel C. Broten  
Minister of Environment

FOR THE GOUVERNEMENT  
DU QUÉBEC



Claude Béchar  
Ministre du Développement durable,  
de l'Environnement et des Parcs



Marie Bountrogianni  
Minister of Intergovernmental  
Affairs and  
Minister Responsible for  
Democratic Renewal



Benoît Pelletier  
Ministre responsable des Affaires  
intergouvernementales canadiennes,  
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