

CITY OF HAMILTON MOTION

Committee Date: November 4, 2013

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR B. MCHATTIE.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR

9.1 Great Lakes Protection Act

Whereas, a bill to advance a Great lakes Protection Act has now passed Second Reading at Queen's Park, and;

WHEREAS there is an urgent and pressing need for a new, strong and effective law to protect and restore the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River watershed;

WHEREAS 3 of our 4 Great Lakes are in decline (Lakes Ontario, Erie and Huron);

WHEREAS the Great Lakes provide more than 80 per cent of Ontario's drinking water;

WHEREAS over 95 per cent of Ontario's agricultural land is in the Great Lakes basin; AND

WHEREAS the health of the lakes contribute to a \$4.4 trillion economy in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence basin in Canada and the United States and;

Whereas, the City of Hamilton has been very involved in Great Lakes protection efforts through the Hamilton Harbour Remedial Action Plan and other efforts.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council request that the Government of Ontario take strong action, through effective legislation, to protect and restore the health of the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Basin, through passage of the Great Lakes Protection Act.