

**Protect Great Lakes Recharge Areas, Limit Sprawl and
Keep the Promise of Ontario's Golden Horseshoe Greenbelt Alive**

Whereas unchecked suburban sprawl has negative implications for Great Lakes Basin water quality and quantity, and

Whereas the Canada-United States 2004 State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference highlighted the magnitude of ongoing pressures of sprawl into the still-green fields and fruit lands of Southern Ontario's Golden Horseshoe area, and

Whereas the February 2005 announcement of a Golden Horseshoe Greenbelt by the Province of Ontario went hand in hand with the Town of Pickering's attempt to sell out "in perpetuity" easements on lands in Greenbelt known as the Duffins-Rouge Agricultural Preserve (DRAP), and

Whereas the Region of Durham, as one of the parties (along with the City of Pickering and the Province of Ontario) to the 1999 signing of the easements protecting the DRAP lands "in perpetuity," has recently backed away from defending its capacities to fully plan for the future of these lands, and

Whereas the above actions of local and regional governments with respect to the DRAP lands have led to rightful statements of "absolute dismay" by citizens and citizen groups in the Greater Toronto Area, and

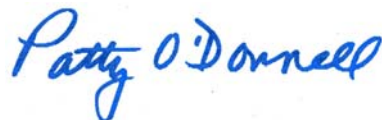
Whereas the York-Durham Sewer System (a.k.a the 'Big Pipe') connection to King City could result in intra basin transfers from the Georgian Bay watershed to Lake Ontario contrary to the Boundary Waters treaty, and

Whereas the promise of the Golden Horseshoe Greenbelt as a significant tool to fight sprawl in the Great Lakes Basin will depend on resolute actions on the part of the Province of Ontario and the Federal Government of Canada, as joint signatories to the Canada-Ontario Agreement (COA) through which Canada works to meet its obligations under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement,

Therefore be it resolved that Great Lakes United calls on the Province of Ontario to take the necessary legal steps to defend the promise of the Golden Horseshoe Greenbelt, starting with actions to defend the "in perpetuity" easements to which it is a party, on the lands in the Duffins-Rouge Agricultural Preserve, and

Be it further resolved that Great Lakes United calls on the Federal Government of Canada and its elected representatives, as parties to COA to make its concerns known to the Province of Ontario with respect to the pressures that are coming to bear on the lands in the Duffins-Rouge Agricultural Preserve.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE TWENTY THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF GREAT LAKES UNITED ON JUNE 9, 2005 IN KINGSTON, ONTARIO.



Patty O'Donnell, President