



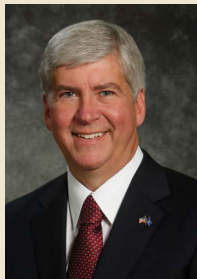
COMPASS

A Report from the Council of Great Lakes Governors

MAY 2014

Co-Chair's Letter

Last month I joined with my fellow co-chair, Governor Quinn of Illinois, to convene the Council of Great Lakes Governors in Chicago. This meeting builds on the historic summit that we hosted last year on Mackinac Island. That summit set the stage for us to work together for the benefit of all our citizens. We are now accelerating our progress and advancing our entire region.



Michigan Governor
Rick Snyder

I am particularly pleased with our continued work to combat aquatic invasive species. The threat of aquatic invasive species transcends borders, and the mutual aid agreement we signed in Chicago allows us to address this threat through collaboration and cooperation.

We also committed to taking bold steps to improve our competitiveness in the global economy and create jobs. We launched a major new initiative with the Paulson Institute to attract international investment to our region's manufacturing. Secretary Paulson and I will host a joint "Competitiveness Forum" in Michigan, and we will announce further actions in coming months.

To promote regional exports, the Council of Great Lakes Governors will be leading four multi-State trade missions to some of the world's most dynamic markets. Our Maritime Task Force is also helping us to build and maintain our ports, harbors and related infrastructure. Of course, our maritime system is a critical piece of our transportation network--connecting us to the global economy.

At the Mackinac Island Summit, our theme was "Strengthening our Economy and Protecting Our Great Lakes." We are now "Accelerating Progress." Thank you for your partnership as we move forward together.

— Rick Snyder

Co-Chair, Council of Great Lakes Governors
Governor, State of Michigan

Governors and Premiers Jumpstart Regional Economy and Environmental Protection



Michigan Governor Rick Snyder, Illinois Governor Pat Quinn, and Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker at the Council of Great Lakes Governors 2014 Executive Meeting.

On April 25-26, the Great Lakes Governors and the Premiers of Ontario and Québec gathered at Chicago's Shedd Aquarium for the Council of Great Lakes Governors 2014 Executive Meeting. The meeting's theme was "Accelerating Progress," following up on last year's breakthrough summit on Mackinac Island, Michigan. In Chicago, the Governors and Premiers announced a series of actions to further enhance our region's competitiveness and better protect our environment.

Illinois Governor Pat Quinn and Michigan Governor Rick Snyder, Co-Chairs of the Council of Great Lakes Governors, hosted the event and were joined by Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker. Senior representatives of Indiana Governor Mike Pence; Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton; New York Governor Andrew Cuomo; Ohio Governor John Kasich;



Michigan Governor Rick Snyder and Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne; Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett; and, Québec Premier Philippe Couillard were also present and participated on their behalf during the meeting’s events.

The Governors and Premiers continue to work collaboratively with one another, and with other partners, toward their shared goals. During the meeting, a number of leaders spoke about how to collaboratively “accelerate progress” including:

- The Honorable Hank Paulson, former U.S. Treasury Secretary and Chairman of The Paulson Institute
- The Honorable Lisa Raitt, Canadian Minister of Transport
- The Honorable Gary Doer, Canadian Ambassador to the U.S.
- The Honorable Bruce Heyman, United States Ambassador to Canada
- David Jacobson, former U.S. Ambassador to Canada and Vice Chair, BMO Capital Markets
- Ellen Alberding, President, The Joyce Foundation
- Mark Pathy, President and Co-CEO, Fednav
- Ted Beattie, President and CEO of the Shedd Aquarium

“The Great Lakes are part of our states’ identities and bring regions and nations together,” Governor Quinn, Council of Great Lakes Governors Co-Chair said. “We may come from different shorelines, but challenges go beyond our borders. As leaders of the region, we come together as ‘champions’ for our beloved Great Lakes.”

Michigan Governor Rick Snyder, Council of Great Lakes Governors Co-Chair, said “Our meeting on Mackinac Island last year set the stage for the Great Lakes Governors and Premiers to better work together for the benefit of all our citizens. We are accelerating our progress with this meeting in Chicago, and look forward to continuing to work across borders to advance our region as a whole.”

COUNCIL OF GREAT LAKES GOVERNORS EXECUTIVE MEETING ACTIONS:

- Launching a comprehensive strategy to improve the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River maritime transport system and better integrate it into the multi-modal transportation system
- Creating an investment initiative to attract international investment to manufacturing in the Great Lakes region
- Signing a mutual aid agreement to combat the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species, including the Asian carp
- Taking executives from regional small and medium sized businesses to four exciting markets, including East Africa, Eastern Europe, Mexico and Québec
- Improving water monitoring across the Basin



Illinois Governor Pat Quinn

Council and Paulson Institute Launch Foreign Direct Investment Initiative

The Council launched a major new initiative with The Paulson Institute to attract foreign direct investment in regional manufacturing. The initiative will help attract international investment in order to sustain and create jobs in this backbone of the regional economy.

“Unlike bond holdings, which can be bought or sold through a quick paper transaction, direct investments involve people, plants and other assets. They are, in this sense, a vote of confidence in another country’s economic system,” said Henry M. Paulson, Jr., chairman of The Paulson Institute. “At a moment of considerable transition in the world economy, many emerging economies hold substantial foreign exchange reserves but are also beginning to seek productive direct



Secretary Henry Paulson speaks during the Council's Executive Meeting.

investments. This includes countries like China, whose companies, for example, have begun to expand their

direct investments, including greenfield investments, in the United States, Canada, and other advanced industrial economies.”

The Governors and Premiers are ramping up their efforts to strategically attract these investments into the manufacturing heartland of the

A MAJOR OPPORTUNITY

- China’s direct investment in the United States grew nearly eight-fold between 2005 and 2013, and likely will increase in the coming years.

Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region. The goal is to help steer investments into productive avenues that are most beneficial to local manufacturing and employment.

Most immediately, the Council and The Paulson Institute will host a joint “Competitiveness Forum,” featuring Michigan Governor Rick Snyder, Co-Chair of the Council of Great Lakes Governors, and Secretary Paulson. This forum will be an opportunity to focus attention on the challenges and opportunities inherent in foreign investment in regional manufacturing.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Council to Lead Four Trade Missions in 2014-15

The Council will lead four multi-sector trade missions in 2014-2015 to assist small and medium sized regional businesses to expand their product sales and services. Missions will visit:

- Eastern Europe (Prague, Warsaw and Istanbul)

November 3-13, 2014

- Mexico (Mexico City, Monterrey and Guadalajara)

March 1-7, 2015

- East Africa (Nairobi and Dar es Salaam)

May 11-16, 2015

- Québec (Montreal and Québec City)

June 15-17, 2015

The Québec mission will be held in conjunction with the Council’s Leadership Summit on June 12-14, 2015 in Québec City.

Mission participants will receive a customized appointment schedule to meet with prospective buyers, distributors, agents and interested parties. Participants also will benefit from networking



Montreal, Québec

events, briefings and logistical support.

Jeremy Sizer and Jodi Boldenow, owners of Industrial Door Co. Inc. from Minnesota, participated in the recent Council Trade Mission to South America. “The trade mission was simply outstanding. All three countries we visited were very productive from a business standpoint. The potential customers that the Council set up for us to meet were exactly the type of customers we want to do business with.”

For more information on the trade missions please click <http://www.cglg.org/projects/trade/TradeMissions.asp>.

Mutual Aid Agreement Targets AIS Threat

On April 26, the Great Lakes Governors and the Premiers of Ontario and Québec announced a Mutual Aid Agreement that will empower the States and Provinces to act collaboratively and share staff and expertise in the event of a serious regional threat from aquatic invasive species (AIS). This innovative agreement provides the States and Provinces with a powerful tool to combat the introduction and spread of aquatic invaders including Asian carp.

The Mutual Aid Agreement is the first of its kind in the world, and is designed to:

- o Prevent the introduction and spread of AIS;
- o Foster mutual aid among the State and Provinces to respond to serious threats to the Basin from AIS; and,
- o Encourage further cooperative actions by the States and Provinces to combat AIS.

Already, the States and Provinces are collaborating under the Mutual Aid Agreement. On May 27-29, Illinois and Indiana will lead a joint exercise in Lake Michigan's Calumet Harbor. Michigan and Ohio will lead a similar exercise later this year.



TOURISM



Chicago Hosts IPW 2014

IPW, the largest international travel trade show in the United States, was held in Chicago on April 5-9 with one of the largest attendances in its history. Many Great Lakes exhibitors showcased their products, including the Illinois booth with a spectacular and unique Abraham Lincoln themed Harley-Davidson motorcycle promoting historic U.S. Route 66. Following the convention, Illinois and Great Lakes USA hosted nine familiarization tours where more than 200 tour operators and media experienced the region first hand. IPW is hosted by the U. S. Travel Association.



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