Regional Maritime Initiative

Building Trade Between Western Europe and the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Region
The maritime system is a backbone of the region’s $6 trillion economy.
Great Lakes St. Lawrence Maritime System

- World’s largest inland waterway system
- More than 100 commercial ports
- A continuous waterway extending more than 3,800 kilometers
- Highly efficient and “green” mode of transport
- Essential to regional industry
- Generates US$30 billion in annual business revenue
The GLSLS-Antwerp Trade Lane

Europe is the main overseas trading partner of GLSLS ports, and the Port of Antwerp is the gateway.

- A centralized location: Antwerp is located within 500 kilometers of 60% of Europe’s purchasing power.
- Europe’s top steel port by tonnage – steel is a key import for GLSLS ports.
- Connections to more than 1,300 locations globally.
- Beneficial logistics synergies, with logistics firms and end-user industries such as warehousing and petrochemical firms co-located on site.
- Forward-looking investments in digitization of the supply chain, autonomous vessels, and renewable energy.
The Great Lakes St. Lawrence region is the gateway to the heartland of North America for western Europe and goods arriving from the Port of Antwerp:

- A megaregion with more than 100 million people.
- Our region generates more than US$6 trillion in GDP annually, and represents about 30% of total US/Canadian economic activity.
- The region’s Governors and Premiers have committed to a long-term collaboration with the Port of Antwerp to work toward shared goals.