

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



CORPORATION OF THE
CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE

February 4, 2021

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

I am writing to you further to the resolution passed at the City of Sault Ste. Marie's City Council meeting on September 28, 2020 in response to the Throne Speech announcing the establishment of the Canada Water Agency. Noting that a site for the agency has not been selected, City Council wishes to express its belief that our community is a tremendous location.

Sault Ste. Marie is located at the heart of the Great Lakes, the world's largest and most critically important body of fresh water. The Great Lakes have been historically significant to the community and surrounding area for centuries, and the banks of the St. Mary's River have been a meeting place for Indigenous peoples for millennia.

Bawating (Sault Ste. Marie) is home to Garden River First Nation, Batchewana First Nation and the Historic Sault Ste. Marie Métis Council. Missanabie Cree First Nation's head office is also in Sault Ste. Marie. The Indigenous community has demonstrated leadership in protecting the Great Lakes and Sault Ste. Marie has a proven track record for providing world class education and research through the Ontario Forest Research Institute, the Great Lakes Canada Research Centre, the Invasive Species Centre, Algoma University and Sault College of Applied Arts and Technology. I also note an international opportunity for collaboration in that Lake Superior State University is home to Center for Freshwater Research and Education.

To put it simply, there is not a better or more appropriate place to locate the Canada Water Agency and we will be following up with our community partners and through our MP, Terry Sheehan, to canvass this opportunity further.

Sincerely,

Christian C. Provenzano, B.A., LL.B., LL.M

CC Chief Dean Sayers, Batchewana First Nation
Chief Andy Rickard, Garden River First Nation
President Kim Powley, Historic Sault Ste. Marie Métis Council
Chief Jason Gauthier, Missanabie Cree First Nation
The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Terry Sheehan, Member of Parliament, Sault Ste. Marie
City Council