

**PROTOCOL AMENDING THE AGREEMENT
 BETWEEN
 CANADA
 AND
 THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
 ON GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY, 1978,
 AS AMENDED ON OCTOBER 16, 1983
 AND ON NOVEMBER 18, 1987**

THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (the "Parties"),

RECOGNIZING that the *Agreement between Canada and the United States of America on Great Lakes Water Quality, 1978*, done at Ottawa on 22 November 1978, as amended on October 16, 1983 and on November 18, 1987 (the "1978 Agreement") and its predecessor, the *Agreement between Canada and the United States of America on Great Lakes Water Quality*, done at Ottawa on 15 April 1972, provide a vital framework for binational consultation and cooperative action to restore, protect and enhance the water quality of the Great Lakes to promote the ecological health of the Great Lakes basin;

REAFFIRMING their commitment to achieve the goals and objectives of the 1978 Agreement, as amended on 16 October, 1983 and 18 November, 1987, as well as those of its 1972 predecessor agreement;

RECOGNIZING the need to update and strengthen the 1978 Agreement to address current impacts on the quality of the Waters of the Great Lakes, and anticipate and prevent emerging threats to the quality of the Waters of the Great Lakes,

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE 1

This Protocol shall be referred to as the Great Lakes Water Quality Protocol of 2012.