

September 9, 2024

## **State legislators from Great Lakes states participate in Sept. 9 tree planting in Duluth**

(DULUTH, MN)—State legislators from Great Lakes states and provinces participating in the 2024 Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Legislative Caucus (GLLC) annual meeting in Duluth joined local officials at a special tree planting event at Bayfront Festival Park on September 9. The event was to commemorate the group’s support of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Trees Initiative, which aims to plant 250 million trees in the region by 2033.

Participants included:

Duluth Mayor Roger Reinert

Minnesota State Senator Ann Rest (DFL-New Hope)

Minnesota State Senator Mary Kunesch (DFL-New Brighton)

Minnesota State Senator Jennifer McEwen (DFL-Duluth)

Wisconsin State Senator André Jacque (R-DePere)

Illinois State Senator Laura Fine (D-Cook County)

Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Legislative Caucus

Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers

The GLLC is a binational, nonpartisan organization of state and provincial legislators who are passionate about policies to protect and restore the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River basin. Its 2024 event was held Sept. 9 and 10 at Pier B Resort Hotel.

This year’s event was designated as a Great Lakes Green Event, which encourages destination stewardship and environmentally beneficial practices for conferences and other events across the Great Lakes region. As a Great Lakes Green Event, GLLC is creating a positive footprint by supporting tree planting in the local community.

“Over the next decade, GSGP will work with the region’s states and provinces, federal governments, corporations, cities, and other institutions to achieve this goal,” said Mike Piskur, program director at GSGP. “Tree planting creates many benefits for the region’s environment, economy and people. These benefits include carbon storage, water quality improvements, wildlife habitat and public health. We applaud the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Legislative Caucus for its leadership and collaboration.”