

# LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

GREAT LAKES ST. LAWRENCE  
GOVERNORS & PREMIERS

CLEVELAND, OHIO  
OCTOBER 13-15, 2023



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ST. LAWRENCE  
GOVERNORS  
& PREMIERS

It has been an honor to serve as the Chair of the GSGP, and I am immensely proud of the progress we have made over the past four years. I want to thank Governor DeWine for his hospitality in hosting the 2023 GSGP Leadership Summit in Cleveland, Ohio, where we not only reflected upon our progress these past few years but charted our future work together:

- The launch of the 100% Great Lakes Fish initiative that is helping to improve the sustainability and value of our fishery by using all of each commercially caught Great Lakes fish.
- Our ambitious goal and initiative to plant 250 million trees in our region by 2033, building upon the tree planting goals that Great Lakes St. Lawrence States and Provinces, including Wisconsin, have already adopted.
- Our work with U.S. Congress and federal partners to secure full federal funding for the new Soo Lock and keep it on track for completion in 2030.
- Welcomed a record number of cruise passengers as a result of our Cruise the Great Lakes program and the hard work of many partners.

Our collective efforts have reinforced the importance of cross-border cooperation, fostering partnerships that transcend State and Provincial boundaries. I am deeply grateful to everyone who has been involved in achieving these milestones.

In Cleveland, we elected Governor Gretchen Whitmer of Michigan as GSGP's next Chair. I look forward to working with her in this role so that GSGP can continue to promote the interests of our region. We have exciting work ahead of us!

Thank you to everyone who helped make the 2023 Leadership Summit a great success. I appreciate your partnership.

Yours in service,



**Tony Evers**

Chair, Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers,  
2019-2023  
Governor, State of Wisconsin

Fran and I were privileged to host the 2023 Leadership Summit of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers in Cleveland. Often referred to as the "Rock and Roll Capital of the World," Cleveland's rich history and diverse culture were on full display as visitors enjoyed some of Cleveland's most iconic spots along the shores of Lake Erie, including the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, the Music Box Supper Club, and the Great Lakes Science Center.

Lake Erie is a vital part of our landscape, and those who gathered for the Summit joined together to share their passion for protecting its waters. From in-depth conversations on Ohio's ambitious H2Ohio program to the importance of ongoing lead remediation and environmental protections, attendees walked away with new ideas for improved water quality.

The Summit also focused on many other issues of collective importance to our region. We had thoughtful discussions on the importance of planting trees, learned how our states can better sustain Lake Erie's fishery, and heard about the latest work to promote Lake Erie as a premier travel destination.

I look forward to continuing our discussions in the coming months and years. We have important work ahead, and it will require all of us to continue to work together.

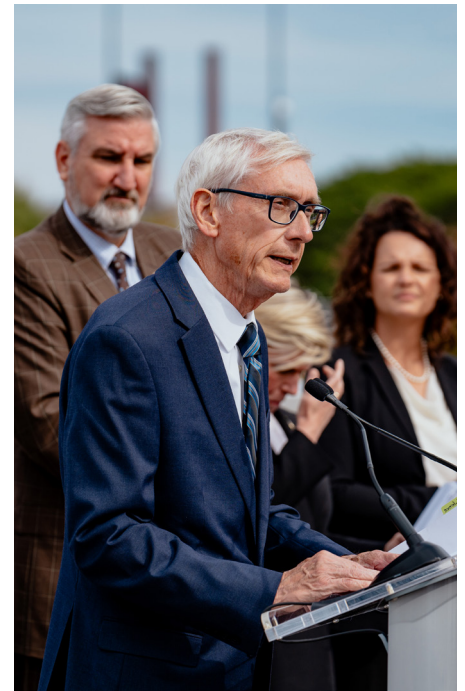
Very truly yours,



**Mike DeWine**

Vice Chair, Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors &  
Premiers  
Governor, State of Ohio























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