

## **LAKE LEVEL RESOLUTION**

**Title: RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION PLAN BV7.**

WHEREAS, the flow of water from Lake Ontario down the St. Lawrence River is regulated by the Moses-Saunders Dam in accordance with the IJC's 1956 order of approval; and

WHEREAS, Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River levels have been targeted to a four-foot range for more than 50 years; and

WHEREAS, Individuals, businesses and governments have relied on this commitment in the design of infrastructure, both public and private; and

WHEREAS, over the past 50 plus years extensive commercial, residential and municipal development has occurred along the shores of Lake Ontario in the Town of Somerset; and

WHEREAS, this development was based on the promise that the 1956 lake level would be maintained; and

WHEREAS, increasing the level of high water and decreasing the level of low water will lead to increased erosion of the shore line; and

WHEREAS, there are 325 privately owned parcels of land on the shore line of Lake Ontario within the town with a land only assessed value of just over \$ 11,344,500 and \$ 32,888,500 when the homes are included; and

WHEREAS, those 325 parcels generate \$ 838,657.00 in tax revenue for the town, county and school; and

WHEREAS, to maintain the current assessed value of those homes would require the landowners to spend as much as \$600 per linear foot to protect from further erosion; and

WHEREAS, other Niagara County towns are even more at risk particularly the harbors in the Town of Newfane and the Town of Wilson and associated industries that benefit our region; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Somerset Town Board publically opposes the International Joint Commission's proposed PV7 plan; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Town of Somerset certify and communicate this resolution to US Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, 28th Congressional District; NYS Senator George Maziarz, 62nd State Senate District; NYS Assemblywoman Jane Corwin, 142nd State Assembly District and William Ross, Chairman, Niagara County Legislature.