



For Immediate Release  
June 11, 2014

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## **GREAT LAKES FISHERY COMMISSION HONORS GREAT LAKES CITIZEN ADVOCATE JOHN JACKSON FOR FOSTERING GREAT LAKES PARTNERSHIPS**

*Jackson, of Kitchener, Ontario, is recognized for his decades of working  
across borders to protect the Great Lakes*

**ANN ARBOR, MI** — The Great Lakes Fishery Commission last week presented Mr. John Jackson, Chair of the Canadian Committee of Advisors of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, with the C.D. “Buzz” Besadny Award for fostering Great Lakes partnerships. The award, which the Commission presents annually, recognized Mr. Jackson for his tireless commitment to uniting the environmental non-governmental community and to developing effective communication with officials in Canada and the United States, and for providing strong leadership on the Canadian Committee of Advisors.

For many years, Mr. Jackson’s work was realized through his service through Great Lakes United (or GLU), the basin’s only bi-national environmental organization. In his aptly titled article “Great Lakes United”, published in 2013, Mr. Jackson described GLU as an international coalition of over 140 groups with some 100,000 diverse individuals, all working to protect the basin’s health and beauty.

“Working at Great Lakes United for the past thirty years, Mr. Jackson has interacted with thousands of people to forge countless partnerships and has successfully promoted, coordinated, supported, and united the diverse and competing interests that define the Great Lakes political landscape,” said Commission Executive Secretary, Bob Lambe. “Today, Mr. Jackson continues to work diligently to bring attention to a diversity of interests throughout the region, helps focus a message, and then directs the preferred policy response to the right people. Mr. Jackson is the very definition of a bi-national Great Lakes citizen activist. He has an unparalleled passion for the Great Lakes and a remarkable ability to influence Great Lakes policy.”

Lambe continued: “Mr. Jackson is probably best known for his decades of work to promote the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. He was appointed by Joe Clark, then Canada’s Secretary of State for External Affairs, to be the official observer to the 1987 negotiation on the agreement and ably increased public and stakeholder engagement in the implementation of the agreement while promoting strong involvement from non-governmental organizations.”

Lambe continued: “Mr. Jackson has also done outstanding work to link fisheries and environmental quality. He was appointed to the Canadian Committee of Advisors more than a decade ago and has used his position to remind our community about environmental objectives and to remind the environmental community about fish objectives.”

### **GREAT LAKES FISHERY COMMISSION**

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Lambe concluded: “Mr. Jackson’s contributions and dedication to the health of the Great Lakes is clearly born from his love of them. His energy and dedication are relentless and infectious.”

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*The Great Lakes Fishery Commission is an international organization established by the United States and Canada through the 1954 Convention on Great Lakes Fisheries. The Commission has the responsibility to support fisheries research, control the invasive sea lamprey in the Great Lakes, and facilitate implementation of A Joint Strategic Plan for Management of Great Lakes Fisheries, a provincial, state, and tribal fisheries management agreement.*



Great Lakes Fishery Commission Executive Secretary Bob Lambe (right) presents John Jackson with the 2014 C.D. Buzz Besadny Award for Fostering Great Lakes Partnerships. The Great Lakes Fishery Commission presented the award to Mr. Jackson on June 3, 2014, during its annual meeting, held in Chicago, Illinois. Photo: T. Lawrence.