



For Immediate Release: December 15, 2008

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### Ontario to Develop Water Conservation & Efficiency Strategy

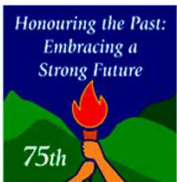
On Dec 4<sup>th</sup>, CIPH met with representatives of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. It was learned that seven of the province's Ministries are working together to develop a water conservation and efficiency strategy.

The motivation for the strategy can be traced to the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement. Ontario is one of the provinces that signed this accord and as such needs to come up with a strategy within two years. (Attached is a Power Point presentation that explains the details of the agreement - and its rationale - in greater detail.)

CIPH staff has been invited, along with other industries related to water use, to attend a presentation on January 16<sup>th</sup> and to provide feedback on the considerations that should be part of the strategy. It is anticipated that a comprehensive draft for public review will be available by spring of 2009, and that a finalized strategy will be available in early 2010.

CIPH is pleased that the government has invited industry's participation at such an early stage in the process. A further update will be provided to CIPH members after the January 16<sup>th</sup> presentation.

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