

DOE PROJECT, CZECH REPUBLIC/MAINTAIN CHICAGO CANAL FOR COMMERCIAL FREIGHT/REWATERIE CANAL THROUGH DOWNTOWN ROCHESTER, NY/MISSOURI RIVER
MAINTENANCE/CANALS THROUGH SERBIA/MONTGOMERY CANAL AND STABLE CANAL FUNDING/UK/LONG-TERM GOVERNANCE OF SMALL CANALS IN FRANCE AND GERMANY/SAALE-
ELSTER CANAL REVIVED AND LEIPZIG LINK/NEW AND RESTORED CANALS BETWEEN NETHERLANDS AND GERMANY/HALDEN-DALS LAND LINK/GRAND CANAL OF CHINA
AS WORLD HERITAGE/AQUEDUCT FOR MOTORWAY TO SAVE LICHFIELD CANAL, MIDLANDS UK/OPEN RUSSIAN WATERWAYS FOR INTERNATIONAL BARGES AND BOATS



Inland Waterways International

Company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales, No. 2953511.
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Bydgoski Ruch Miejski
for the attention of
Karl Mechkin

20 September 2025

Re: Rewatering of the Old Bydgoszcz Canal

Dear Karl,

I am very pleased to formally support the event organized by the Bydgoski Ruch Miejski, promoting the reconstruction of the Bydgoszcz Canal.

As Inland Waterways International brings together people and organizations that support worldwide conservation, sustainable use, development, management, and promotion of inland waterways, we welcomed with pleasure information that Bydgoski Ruch Miejski is taking actions towards putting the reconstruction of the Old Bydgoszcz Canal's buried section in the city center on the municipal agenda.

Many of our members still keep wonderful memories from the 2024 World Canals Conference, which took place in Bydgoszcz, where we had a first-hand opportunity to learn about and appreciate diverse waterways of your city, their history, and cultural and environmental significance. We also learnt then about the fate of the Old Bydgoszcz Canal, a section of which was infilled to make room for the road network expansion. This was unfortunately a common practice in many cities worldwide. It is important to mention that many of those cities are now reversing those harmful decisions, bringing back their urban waterways, and Bydgoszcz has a significant potential to join this honorary circle.

We are confident that daylighting the missing Old Bydgoszcz Canal link will significantly improve quality of life for the citizens of Bydgoszcz, by bringing more opportunities for recreation, inviting more biodiversity into the dense urban fabric, and as an important measure to mitigate effects of climate change. Restoring this landmark will bring more opportunities for promoting sustainable use of urban waterways, inviting both inhabitants and tourists to co-create this new vibrant public space, recalling the rich heritage of Bydgoszcz as an inland navigation hub connecting east and west.

In conclusion, IWI fully supports efforts of the Bydgoski Ruch Miejski to bring the reconstruction of the Old Bydgoszcz Canal on the municipal agenda, and organization of this event as a major step towards advancing this ambitious project.

Sincerely,

Sharon Leighton

President

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A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sharon Leighton".

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