UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION
IN SUPPORT OF WINTERMISSION EAU CLAIRE

WHEREAS, Wintermission is an 18-month $15,000 grant awarded by 80 Cities, a company from Toronto, Ontario; and

WHEREAS, the mission of 80 Cities follows the thought: “if everything we do in our cities is great for an 8-year-old and an 80-year-old, then it will be great for all people”; and

WHEREAS, 80 Cities chooses three North American cities or towns, each from a respective category of population-dependent size, that already experience and convert unique winter disadvantages into beneficial circumstances, and helps them promote healthy activity and social interaction; and

WHEREAS, Eau Claire was named a Winter Vanguard City by 80 Cities in January of 2019, being from the ‘medium-sized’ category; and

WHEREAS, the other cities awarded the grant were Buffalo, New York and Leadville, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, Wintermission Eau Claire has representation from the following parties: the city of Eau Claire (Health Department, Economic Development Department, and Parks, Recreation, & Forestry Department), Eau Claire City Council, the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire, the city of Altoona, Downtown Eau Claire Incorporated, Visit Eau Claire, and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation; and

WHEREAS, Wintermission Eau Claire has four wintertime priorities: snow and ice maintenance, winter mobility, winter events and activities, and winter culture; and

WHEREAS, Wintermission Eau Claire is a three-phase project designed to help the people of Eau Claire stay involved during winter months; and

WHEREAS, the first phase, ENGAGE, was an initiation of conversation about winter life in Eau Claire, starting in March of 2019; and

WHEREAS, the second phase, LAUNCH, is the implementation of pilot projects over the 2019-2020 winter season; and

WHEREAS, the Eau Claire Winter Recreation Route, kicking off the second phase in November, is the first official pilot project within the Wintermission grant; and

WHEREAS, Community Winter Gear Share is a pilot project that allows members of the Eau Claire community to check out winter gear (snowshoes, poles, ice fishing kits, sleds, hockey equipment, more) from L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library, the Altoona Public Library, and at Pinehurst Park; and
WHEREAS, the next project, in collaboration with local media sources, will focus on reframing the rhetoric surrounding the winter season; and

WHEREAS, the third phase, STRATEGIZE, promises by end of the grant Eau Claire will have developed its own Winter City Strategic Plan with longer-term policy and planning recommendations to make Eau Claire a vibrant winter city; and

WHEREAS, Wintermission Eau Claire will implement the third phase starting in April, and will conclude work in October of 2020; and

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, the City of Eau Claire proclaimed to “celebrate the progress and efforts of Wintermission Eau Claire and encourage everyone to embrace winter and stay active and involved throughout the year”.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire Student Senate recognizes and supports the goals and progress of the Wintermission Eau Claire team; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UW – Eau Claire Student Senate supports the city of Eau Claire in its efforts to provide beneficial and accessible winter recreation opportunities for the Eau Claire community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UW - Eau Claire Student Senate encourages members of the community to use sustainable practices when being active in the winter months; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UW-Eau Claire Student Senate will continue to promote sustainable methods for students, members of the university, and community members to actively participate in; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, President Johnson will transmit a copy to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; LaRue Pierce, Dean of Students; Dr. Patricia Klein, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Albert Colom, Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management; Kristin Schumacher, Director, University Centers; Jacob Wrasse, Government and Community Relations Specialist; Michael Rindo, Assistant Chancellor, Facilities and University Relations; John Haven III, Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration; Evan Weiher, Chair, University Senate; Kelly Holzer, Chair, University Staff Council; Teresa O’Halloran, Director, Affirmative Action; Dang Yang, Director, Office of Multicultural Affairs; Mike Knuth, Integrated Marketing and Communications; Sara Larsen, Business and Communications Specialist, Economic Development, City of Eau Claire; Aaron White, Manager, Economic Development, City of Eau Claire; Heather Smith, Regional Economic Development Director, Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation;

Submitted by:

Austin Gulbrandson, Intergovernmental Affairs Director and Off-Campus Senator
Hannah Yonker, On-Campus Student Senator
Stephanie Hoeksema, Senate Equity Director