2023 Climate Action & Resilience Report **Bemidji State University** 



BEMIDJI STATE UNIVERSITY

### **Mapping Our "What"**

Jan 17 - Energy

Jan 24 - Water

Jan 31 - Transportation

Feb 7 - Materials & Waste

Feb 14 - Economic Opportunity

Feb 21 - Housing

Feb 28 - Health & Wellness

#### **Process Goals:**

- Cultivate a shared sense of direction for each indicator with a 3-5 year lens.
- Identify a **what** for each

#### **Experiential Goal:**

Imbue participants with a shared sense of ownership for directing the work.

# In 3 years, with regard to HEALTH & WELLNESS

we agree to

- Investigate how we measure student health and wellbeing
  - Use that data to inform decisions
- Connect BSU community to place
  - Expand outdoor programming (extra-curricular & academic)
  - Support Indigenous culture events
- Elevate ADA Accessibility in Comprehensive Facilities Plan
- Cultivate food justice by prioritizing local sourcing, nutrition, and culturally significant foods in the next dining services contract
- Institute campus-wide "no-class hour"/unscheduled time
- Increase culturally significant programming & services
- Update Hobson Memorial Forest's Stewardship Plan
  - Emphasize community engagement with the Forest
- Increase safety of all through education engagement activities on and off campus
- Enhance student wellness through accessible, quality and transparent health services









## **Strengths**

- location
- music, arts, Indigenous programs and values
- mission, vision, values
- Sustainability Office
- Best You @ BSU
- Harmony's connections with regional farmers
- Student Center for Health and Counseling (free counseling for students)
- BSU's Gillett Wellness Center
- Gitigaan campus garden
- Bucky's Bikes rental program
- pollinator gardens & re-wilding campus
- food pantry grant; Bucky's Cupboard
- Indigenous Sustainability Studies
- STEM alliance, other funding for students
- tuition is accessible even for out-ofstate
- gun lockers/game cleaning room
- AIRC
- public safety, 24-hr staffing
- existing partnership infrastructure
- Hobson Forest

### Weaknesses

- budget cuts, \$\$ crisis
- decrease in enrollment
- impacts of extreme weather (ie. smoke/smog)
- staff reductions
- legislative conflicts
- healthcare and drug industry policies
- mental health stigma and/or understaffing of mental health
- unequal laws
- red tape/liability concerns
- cutting programs (OPC, Spanish)
- prioritization of spending
- knowledge & awareness of services
- student participation
- defensiveness/trauma response
- current use of technology
  - emphasis for online classes
- social media
- lack of communication
  - information
  - clarity

# **Opportunities**

- shared community identity on campus
- Harmony + Farmer's Markets
- Peacemaker Resources (SEL training)
- Curriculum in environment program; People of the Environment
- in a state of change, easier to change
- Indigenous communities, Tribal Colleges
- Indigenous Environmental Network
- Rail River Folk School
- Tribal Colleges
- Bemidji Community Food Shelf
- Nursing Dept
- Exercise Sci/Health Dept
- TAD Dept or NTC programs: repair broken cabins at Hobson Forest
- First Year Exp connecting to outdoor opportunities
- more fellowship programs that count for credit

# Consequences of our Success

- people taking more time means needing to restructure the pace of work, ex: slower email response times
  - capacity issues
  - overworked/burnout
  - appears as less productive when taking personal time
- potential abuse of resources with more people using them (ex: Hobson Forest)
- safety concerns, ex: more bikes
- increased conflict
- growing pains if more people come here