WHEREAS, the City of Akko and the City of Youngstown wish to establish a Sister City relationship; and
WHEREAS, it is a goal that this relationship would provide opportunities for business exchanges, business investments, trade missions and meetings with business leaders of each city; and
WHEREAS, The Youngstown Jewish Federation is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year and is engaged in many projects and activities with Akko; and
WHEREAS, the City of Akko and the City of Youngstown share qualities of sister cities, such as the strong reputation for community theater, the commitment of offering higher education in the form of institutions such as the Western Galilee College and Youngstown State University, and the participation in joint projects; and
WHEREAS, some of the educational programs currently linking these cities include the twinning of Valley classrooms with classes in Israel, an International Book Sharing Project, the multi-cultural Tri-wizard Program connecting Jewish and Arab classes in Israel with local non-Jewish students, and the Lights of Peace project, among others.

NOW THEREFORE, the City of Akko and the City of Youngstown hereby agree to establish a Sister City relationship, thereby promoting opportunities for business, social and cultural exchanges for the benefit of both cities.