

Motion for a McGill Free from Fossil Fuels

Whereas, the overwhelming majority of scientific bodies agree that carbon and other greenhouse gas emissions are contributing to rising average global temperature and climate change across the planet;

Whereas, examples of global climate change from 2012 include severe droughts in the United States, flooding in Alberta, and the lowest-ever summer ice cover in the Arctic;

Whereas, scientists predict that if the global average temperature rises by 2°C, the planet could experience increased extreme weather events, such as droughts, floods and storms, reduced agricultural output, and thus rising food prices, and increased levels of illness and disease;

Whereas, the Tar Sands represent the fastest growing source of carbon emissions in Canada;

Whereas, information regarding investment policies on the McGill website only mentions “social and ethical norms” and “an investment portfolio managed in a ‘socially responsible’ manner”, with no clear elaboration on what that means;

Whereas, McGill University also has investments in many companies, some involved in natural resource extraction;

Resolved, that the AUS adopt a position opposing the continued development of the Canadian Tar Sands,

Resolved, that the AUS adopt a position opposing the continued usage of fossil fuels and calling on the peoples of the world to rapidly transition to a carbon-neutral future,

Resolved, that the AUS lobby McGill University to cut all ties with and divest from companies engaged in the Tar Sands or fossil fuel production, and from financial institutions that invest in or give loans to companies engaged in the Tar Sands or fossil fuel production.

Resolved, that the AUS cut all ties with and divest from companies engaged in the Tar Sands or fossil fuel production, and from financial institutions that invest in or give loans to companies engaged in the Tar Sands or fossil fuel production. Subject to the condition that the AUS can continue to maintain all necessary relationships with all financial institutions, given the understanding that the AUS will consider moving its money to another institution if one makes a policy that fulfils its mandate.

Resolved, that the AUsec work to promote this mandate to the best of its ability.

Moved by
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