



The Association of McGill
University Support Employees

Le Syndicat des employé(e)s occasionnels
de l'Université McGill



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Statement by the AMUSE Board of Representatives Condemning The Plan Nord and McGill's Continued Financial Stake in the Project

Whereas in May 2011, Jean Charest's Liberal government introduced a 25-year plan to exploit the resources of Northern Quebec, covering 1.2 million square kilometers above the 49th parallel including James Bay, Nunavik, and the North Shore by investing \$80 billion in public and private money towards mining, logging, the construction of dams, and the building of infrastructure to support these activities;ⁱ

Whereas First Nations including but not limited to the Inuit, the Innu, the Cree, the Naskapis of Schefferville, the Algonquin, and the Atikamekw, have voiced concerns about the Plan;ⁱⁱ

Whereas members of these First Nations communities have expressed their opposition to the Plan through direct actions, such as when Innu activists blockaded highway 138 in protest of the La Romaine Hydroelectric Complex megaproject;ⁱⁱⁱ

Whereas many environmental groups have criticized the Plan Nord's destructive policies and its potential for devastating ecological and human consequences;^{iv}

Whereas McGill University has deep ties to the Plan Nord, including investments in 11 companies lobbying for the Plan, at least 5 out of 25 Board members involved in promoting the Plan, and at least one law firm that lobbies for the Plan;^v

Whereas the Association of McGill University Support Employees does not currently have a mandate to specifically oppose the Plan Nord;

Resolved that the AMUSE adopt a position actively opposing the Plan Nord.

Resolved that AMUSE lobby the McGill administration to divest its holdings in companies profiting from or lobbying for the Plan Nord, and from companies that do business on native land without the full, democratic permission of the communities there.

In solidarity,

The Board of Representatives of the Association of McGill University Support Employees



ⁱ Squires, Jessica. "A "plan nord de merde": Jean Charest's plan to wreck the North." *Socialist Worker Canada*. N.p., 27 Mar 2012. Web. 18 Feb 2013. <<http://socialistworkercanada.com/2012/03/27/a-plan-nord-de-merde-jean-charests-plan-to-wreck-the-north/>>.

ⁱⁱ Ibid.

ⁱⁱⁱ "Innu defiant in face of blockade arrests, pledge to fight for land." *Aboriginal Peoples Television Network*. N.p., 24 Oct 2012. Web. 18 Feb 2013. <<http://aptn.ca/pages/news/2012/10/24/innu-defiant-in-face-of-blockade-arrests-pledge-to-fight-for-land/>>.

^{iv} Jablonski, Alexia. "Environmental and First Nations groups criticize Plan Nord." *The McGill Daily*. N.p., 31 Oct 2011. Web. 18 Feb 2013. <<http://www.mcgilldaily.com/2011/10/environmental-and-first-nations-groups-criticize-plan-nord/>>.

^v "McGill's Investments in Plan Nord." *Divest McGill*. N.p., Web. 18 Feb 2013. <<http://divestmcgill.com/mcgills-investments/plan-nord/>>.