



The Association of McGill  
University Support Employees

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



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## **Statement from the Board of Representatives of AMUSE Condemning McGill's Financial Ties to the Tar Sands and Fossil Fuel Industry**

**TO: The Board of Governors of McGill University**

**CC: The Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility of McGill University**

Dear Members of the McGill Board of Governors,

I am writing on behalf of the Board of the Representatives of the Association of McGill University Support Employees (AMUSE), which represents approximately 1400 workers at McGill.

At our most recent meeting, Board members discussed environmental issues in light of ongoing projects in the Tar Sands of Alberta and fossil fuel production, as well as the Plan Nord project in Northern Quebec. Our concern for the environment, sustainability, and our communities lead us to take a position on these harmful projects.

The AMUSE Board of Representatives condemns the University's investments in companies engaged in the Tar Sands or fossil fuel production, and in financial institutions that invest in, or give loans to, companies engaged in the Tar Sands or fossil fuel production. We stand in firm support of the Divest McGill student group and their goal of encouraging McGill University to divest all of its holdings related to the fossil fuel industry.

The overwhelming majority of scientific bodies agree that carbon and other greenhouse gas emissions are contributing to rising average temperatures and climate change across the planet. In 2013, oil sand production represents the fastest growing source of carbon emissions in Canada, and given the alarming rate at which carbon emissions are contributing to global climate change and how the effects of said change are becoming more severe, the Board of Representatives for AMUSE asks that the Board of Governors of McGill University seriously reflect on whether it is socially responsible for McGill to be profiting off of an industry that continues to exploit and destroy our environment at unprecedented levels.

In light of the University's apparent unwillingness to divest from such a hazardous industry, the Board of Representatives for AMUSE has voted to adopt a position in favor of a rapid transition away from fossil fuels and towards a carbon-neutral society. We urge you to adopt a similar position.

In Solidarity (and Friendship!),

Luke Walker  
Communications & Secretariat, AMUSE – PSAC (on behalf of the Board of Representatives of AMUSE)

