



Association des Employées et Employés de
Recherche de l'Université McGill.

Association of McGill University **Research**
Employees

RESOLUTION G-1:

Submitted by: Guido Powell

WHEREAS all 196 nations in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) have agreed on a target of limiting emissions to a level that would prevent global temperature increase beyond 2°C above pre-industrial levels, based on research from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in order to “prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system”; and

WHEREAS the major fossil fuel companies severely impair the global community’s ability to adhere to the UNFCCC’s protocols, by continuing exploration and extraction of fossil-fuel reserves beyond sustainable limits, and by actively undermining the transition toward renewable and sustainable energy sources; and

WHEREAS divestment campaigns, such as McGill University’s divestment from companies doing business in South Africa’s apartheid regime in 1985 and divesting from tobacco companies in 2007, have historically been a successful means by which public institutions can apply pressure on and change the practices of regimes and industries engaged in documented social injury; and

WHEREAS approximately 1,000 institutions worldwide, including 164 educational institutions, such as University of Laval Université du Québec à Montréal, as well as student unions and teachers associations, such as the Students’ Society of McGill University and the McGill Association of University Teachers, have fulfilled or are committed to divesting from holdings worth nearly 8 trillion USD in fossil fuels ;

WHEREAS it is well documented that fossil-free investments have consistently outperformed conventional ones when compared over 5- and 10-year periods and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of McGill University Research Employees pledge to keep its existing funds from being invested in companies whose primary business is the extraction, distribution, and/or sale of fossil fuels; and from all mutual funds that directly invest in such companies; and demand that McGill University divest all fossil fuel holdings from its endowment fund and from the McGill University Pension Plan.