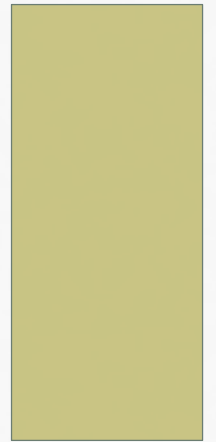


STUDENT ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES AT GRENFELL CAMPUS

DIVEST MUN AND THE EAC FARMER'S FEAST



ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

- Committee of the Grenfell Campus Student Union
- Runs free, locally sourced, meals on a regular basis “Farmers Feast.”
- Volunteer based.
- Open to all.
- Works with other environmental initiatives on campus.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

- Other initiatives include, general environmental awareness, campus clean-ups, co-ordination with campus on composting and sustainability matters.

DIVEST MUN

- Student/Faculty organization.
- First formed towards the end of the winter semester of 2014.
- Took initial inspiration from local fracking awareness groups, and Divest Mount Allison.
- Early months mostly fact finding mission, researching divestment, internal discourse on relevance in NL, and climate change research.
- Largely isolated from larger movement for this period.

DIVEST MUN

- Fact finding trip to Montreal for Canada's first Divestment convergence in November of 2014.
- Met with nation-wide organizations, gathered additional information on national and international movement, economics of divestment.
- Continue to work with other divestment groups nationally.
- National day of action on divestment (February 2015).
- Memorial Faculty Association votes in favor of divestment April 2015.

DIVEST MUN

- Day of action for jobs, justice, and the climate July 2015. Downtown St. John's.
- Submission to Board of Regents October 2015.
- Currently have asked to present to the Board at their upcoming meeting in December, and are awaiting decision of the executive committee of the Board of Regents (next week).

DIVEST MUN

- Central arguments:
- **Financial:** Need to diversify funding. MUN is already indirectly dependent upon state of fossil fuels via provincial economy. Investments additional to this increase risk.
- Carbon bubble and stranded assets.
- **Ethical:** Climate change threatens mass displacement of tens of millions world wide, deaths of millions, increased political instability, and a massive cost to health gains over last century. Effects for NL are also widespread.

DIVEST MUN

- Central arguments:
- **Policy inconsistency:** By investing in fossil fuels MUN is betting on the failure of its own initiatives to reduce GHG emissions.
- Individuals can help diminish climate change impacts but our institutions must stop institutionalizing dependency on fossil fuels via their investments.

DIVEST MUN

- **Criticism:** Divestment movement has distracted attention away from other initiatives aimed at reduction of climate change impacts.
- **In fact:** Divest MUN continues to work actively with EAC and other groups to forward environmental initiatives.
- A central role of divestment campaigns is to support front line communities.
- **Example:** hydraulic fracturing. Divest MUN has called for a ban in NL, and has submitted to the NLHFRP.

DIVEST MUN

- Participation in Harris Center workshop on creating a sustainable future for Western Newfoundland.
- Collaboration with Grenfell Campus Student Union in drafting an open letter to Justin Trudeau, Elizabeth May, and the Premier's Office to call for comprehensive plan to reduce GHG emissions and transition to a renewable economy. Also to show Canada's commitment ahead of COP21 in Paris.