



Say no to divest proposal

Maya Lahav

to:

jhorwood

02/25/2017 11:05 PM

Hide Details

From: Maya Lahav <mayalahav@hotmail.ca>

To: jhorwood@yorku.ca,

Please respond to Maya Lahav <mayalahav@hotmail.ca>

I am a student at York, responding to your call for comments on the 'York U Divest Proposal.' I believe you should reject this proposal on the grounds that in order to best serve its students the university should engage in responsible investment, not negative screening or divestment.

The York University Endowment Fund should strive to affect positive change on our campus and through its investment policies. Unfortunately, while the spirit of the 'York U Divest Proposal' is commendable, it fails to advance these objectives. The committee has a fiduciary responsibility to ensure students receive a maximum benefit from the Fund, which negative screening and divestment would put at risk. The proposal would also deny York a seat at the table of the very companies its authors wish to have a positive impact on. Please reject these negative results and vote against this proposal.

Thank you for your consideration, and I hope you will lead the way on effective responsible investment at York by rejecting this proposal.

Sincerely,

Maya Lahav



Reject York U Divest Proposal

Faaiz Bilal

to:

jhorwood

02/25/2017 03:02 PM

Hide Details

From: Faaiz Bilal <faaiz_bilal@hotmail.com>

To: jhorwood@yorku.ca,

Please respond to Faaiz Bilal <faaiz_bilal@hotmail.com>

Thank you for your call for comments on the 'York U Divest Proposal.' As a member of the York community, I believe the university's investments are best served by a responsible investment policy, rather than the negative screening or divestment called for here.

The United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment, which has 1686 signatories worldwide, recognizes that responsible investment does not require ruling out investment in any sector or company. It simply involves including environmental, social and governance factors information as part of investment decision-making. However, the 'York U Divest Proposal' calls specifically for negative screening and divestment, putting it at odds with the global understanding of effective responsible investment policies. For that reason, this proposal should be rejected.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my comments on how we can truly benefit the York community through responsible investment.

Sincerely,

Faaiz Bilal