

# PUTTING YOUR CAPITAL WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS: CULTURES OF PEACE, FOSSIL FUEL DIVESTMENT, AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS' ETHICAL INVESTING POLICIES

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Many concerns stem from the unsustainability and social costs generated by big oil corporations. As a result, a growing movement is calling on post-secondary institutions to divest their endowment funds from fossil fuels. This paper builds on the author's experience of working with students and staff to amend his home institution's policies. It invokes Peace Studies' quality of critical normativity to argue that post-secondary institutions ought to craft ethical investment policies that explicitly support socially and ecologically responsible ventures. Further, such policies represent a timely path toward incarnating multidimensional cultures of peace. The goal of the paper is to share a series of arguments that can be adapted by or serve as a stimulus for coalitions working on these issues. Some or all of these arguments may contribute to university and college decision makers embracing policy change for socio-ecological flourishing.

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## INTRODUCTION

The planetary community is engulfed in an anthropogenic ecological crisis that is disproportionately hurting marginalized people. The crisis threatens to spin out of control if the incremental impacts of unsustainable exploitative industries are not kept in check by the moral abilities of human actors.<sup>1</sup> As part of an urgently needed response to this crisis, this paper focuses on ethical investing oriented toward wide social and ecological flourishing. I

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worked on this issue for over a year with Erica Violet Lee, an urban Nēhiyaw woman who is well-known for her involvement in the Idle No More movement.<sup>2</sup> Idle No More is remarkable for its commitment to nonviolent social change in healing the damaged relationship between Indigenous people and settlers. As part of that commitment, people working with the movement often hold deep concerns for social and ecological justice.<sup>3</sup> Lee and I were accompanied in those efforts by other concerned students from our college's Just Youth group, which focuses on global justice and peace issues.<sup>4</sup> We were also fortunate to have the support of our college's mission officer who is responsible for the articulation and realization of the institution's values. We also benefited from a sympathetic college president. Both of these college administrators were extremely supportive in helping us navigate the institutional culture and procedures. Eventually, we earned a rare in-person hearing before the federated college's board of governors.

Our goal was to encourage the revision of our college's investing policy so that it more fully reflects the values and mission of the institution. We were partially successful. The board members listened to our presentation and asked a series of questions, which stimulated a dialogue. Some of these questions were critical and others were supportive. It was clear that, even if they disagreed with us, the vast majority of board members were interested in these ideas and how they might be grounded in the college's policies.

Conflict Studies professor Heather Eaton engages issues surrounding "the socio-ecological crisis"<sup>5</sup> not only in technical terms but also on the level of "insight"<sup>6</sup> or holistic understanding. In accord with her recommendation, several board members explored concepts and ethical issues related to a policy issue for our college. Our advocacy for ethical investment policy change called upon the governors to better support "socio-ecological flourishing," that is, a state of positive peace marked by social justice, ecological health, and nourishing peace, which sees humanity and the rest of Earth community sharing a common fate and destiny.<sup>7</sup>

In their subsequent deliberations, the board chose to modify the college's investing policy. The amended passage now states, "The Finance and Investment Committee will seek to ensure as much as possible that investments are based on socially and ecologically responsible investment practices."<sup>8</sup> Eventually, we hope to persuade the larger University of Saskatchewan to develop an ethical investing policy that purposely supports socio-ecological flourishing. We chose this goal due to the concerns raised

by unsustainable practices that receive licit and explicit support on campus. These unsustainable practices are concerning because they harm marginalized people and other members of the Earth community. When thinking about positive peace from our vantage point, it makes sense to focus on the nuclear and fossil fuel industry, made visible by extractive industries harming Indigenous Peoples in and near Saskatchewan in places like Fort Chipewyan<sup>9</sup> and the so-called “uranium corridor.” The latter crosses a number of fragile ecosystems that Indigenous People in northwest Saskatchewan depend upon for their traditional cultural practices and foods.<sup>10</sup> In the case of our college, which has no known connection with military research, the perhaps more obvious negative peace issues of military involvement and investments in armaments did not pertain. Armaments, along with alcohol and tobacco, are already excluded in its ethical investing policy. Though the new language of supporting socially and ecologically beneficial investments should cover our case, we asked the board to add nuclear and fossil fuels, or at a minimum nuclear waste storage and tar sands companies, to that list of exclusions. We selected these ventures because they threatened nourishing peace through their negative effects on marginalized communities.<sup>11</sup>

This paper seeks to enter current debates about divestment from fossil fuels. Its specific goal is to broaden the activist discourse in a way that can convince decision makers to change post-secondary institutions’ investment policies to actively support both socially and ecologically beneficial endeavours. It moves through a series of compound arguments, some or all of which may contribute to university and college decision makers embracing policy change in the direction of socio-ecological flourishing. To support this goal, and building on the author’s training in Peace Studies, the paper argues for particular and purposeful policy change. It urges the crafting of ethical investing policies that support positive peace, characterized not only by the absence of war but also by the healing of structural and interpersonal violence.<sup>12</sup> Further, the paper sees and connects concerns for social justice, ecological health, and substantive peace as a tripartite set of inseparable commitments.<sup>13</sup> It has in mind policymakers, such as our college president, mission officer, and board members who may be moved to action by contextually legitimate appeals to this triumvirate of interrelated concerns. While the paper aims for certain resonance beyond the local, it is not addressed to policymakers as if they were a homogeneous group. Rather, it seeks to provide arguments that could be adapted or serve as a stimulus for further

reflective action by faculty, staff, and students. Ideally, these faculty, staff, and students would be working in a coalition and seeking to shift their home institutions' investing policy in a direction more supportive of social justice, nourishing peace, and ecological health.

To emphasize, this paper offers an argument that was partly successful in a particular context. It also reflects choices made in that context to avoid some points and emphasize others. For example, rather than criticizing and naming "petro-capitalism," we avoided such language in order to appeal to the conscience of board members, and to values like social justice and solidarity that are articulated in our college's mission statement and policy documents. In this sense, we argued on the level of "insight" or holistic understanding with a discourse crafted to appeal to a specific board of governors. We knew that a majority of governors might be motivated toward correct action when presented with the human costs of certain approaches to investment. We invoked Catholic and Prairie values, which in our experience characterize the majority of the board members' worldviews. These values are also present in our college's policy documents related to mission and identity. Invoking these values, we attempted to offer positive ethical alternatives to a shocking set of moral problems. For example, we emphasized "ethical investing" over "divestment." It is significant that the board did not choose specifically to exclude nuclear and fossil fuel companies as per our expressed hope. It did, however, adopt our other, positively framed suggestion, requiring the investment management company to strive as much as possible for socially and ecologically beneficial investment.

Other concerned coalitions of students, staff, and faculty may adapt or reject what is presented here as they form their own strategies. We suggest that such coalitions craft language that resonates with their contexts. In our view, broad coalitions taking this contextual approach are well positioned to open spaces for policy change towards socio-ecological flourishing.

In this regard, the title's semi-colloquial invocation to "put your capital where your mouth is" is meant to invoke moral consistency, specifically, consistency with the values that post-secondary institutions express through outlets like mission statements. It is most helpful when a post-secondary mission statement includes ethical content related to areas such as social justice, participation, visionary leadership, and sustainability. However, educational values as basic as critical thinking also provide an opening for this line of argument. Such spaces are further enlarged when critical thinking is applied

to contextual realities that negatively affect nourishing peace, social justice, and ecological health. Accordingly, this paper affirms a contextual need for ethical consistency, flowing from (1) the values that colleges and universities claim to support, (2) the basic realities emerging from humanity's essential location within an Earth community, and (3) a set of commitments for social justice that strive to remove enabling supports for gross inequalities and other forms of harmful violence.

The approach here is one of "critical normativity" associated with Peace Studies.<sup>14</sup> This general methodology may be characterized as "activist" or, perhaps more appropriately, "transformative."<sup>15</sup> It certainly resonates with the notion that Peace Studies carves out a space beyond the merely academic where praxis helps to positively transform the world.<sup>16</sup> This approach seeks to avoid reductionism by viewing people not merely as consumers, objects, or members of classes. Rather, it affirms that people are subjects existing in complex webs of social and ecological relationships. In this light, this paper seeks to engage an existing policy framework that is immediately understandable to decision makers at universities and colleges—the category of ethical investing policies.

## DIVESTMENT CAMPAIGNS, ETHICAL INVESTING, AND CULTURES OF PEACE

Divestment campaigns uphold moral reasons for having people, corporations, or institutions remove particular stocks, bonds, or investment funds from their portfolio. In this approach, campaigners reject the argument that investors can influence certain types of corporations "from the inside" as equity holders. Rather, divestment campaigns strive to gain a momentum that reduces a company's stock price, making it harder to obtain credit and fund further morally problematic projects. One focus of this paper is on fossil fuel divestment. Divestment, after all, has a long association with efforts to build nourishing peace. We may note the work to end the Apartheid regime in South Africa with the help of divestment and other nonviolent actions, and current efforts to address injustices in Israel-Palestine through the use of boycott, divestment, and sanctions (BDS). These efforts are connected; BDS takes part of its inspiration from the South African example.<sup>17</sup> With reference to Martin Luther King Jr. and Gene Sharp, among others, in her survey of issues at the intersection of transnational solidarity and BDS, Mai Carter Hallward notes that Peace Studies approaches to the issue

include boycott and divestment as strategies and actions of nonviolence.<sup>18</sup> That said, the goal of nonviolent action is cultures of peace.<sup>19</sup> In this quest, building cultures of peace requires more than just divesting from fossil fuels. So this paper first links ethical investment with cultures of peace. Ethical investing works here both in support of and in parallel to positive peace. This paper, then, supports divesting from enterprises that hurt people and the other members of the Earth community, while placing greater emphasis on reinvesting in projects that support socio-ecological flourishing.

A key premise of this paper is that post-secondary institutions enacting ethical investment policies that explicitly support socially and ecologically responsible ventures represent a timely path toward incarnating multidimensional cultures of peace. In cultures of peace, people take responsibility in diverse ways to support integral or holistic sustainability, which sees all human social and ecological endeavours as intertwined. Along this path, colleges and universities can help ensure their long-term sustainability by investing in nourishing peace. Such an approach also organically fosters social justice and ecological health. To highlight the timely nature of ethical investing as a form of peacebuilding, the following section references eight areas named in the UN General Assembly's Resolution A/53/243, and links these eight areas to moral imperatives for ethical investing. In order to adequately map the confluence among the various threads in this paper, we survey all eight areas.

In linking social justice, nourishing peace, and ecological health, this paper finds itself within an emerging trend in Peace Studies. Scholars such as Stephanie Westlund, Randal Amster, and Michael Klare have contributed important insights to the field by coupling ecology and peace. Westlund demonstrates that our essential connectedness to the ecological world can be activated to heal post-conflict trauma.<sup>20</sup> Amster draws attention to connections between peace and ecology. His vision of peace ecology melds the concepts of positive peace with ecological health. This coupling is necessary, Amster argues, because war and violence can no longer be considered in isolation from environmental degradation. Working against the realization of sustainable outcomes, Amster continues, are the interests of war, violence, and extractive industries. These segmented interests are compounded by the military-industrial project and its tendency to destroy, divide, and exploit the essential commons of human life.<sup>21</sup> For his part, Klare's focus on conflict-stressors that accompany resource exploitation provides an

important insight: renewable energy represents a much more solid basis than extractive industries for peaceful economies.<sup>22</sup> Westlund's, Amster's, and Klare's contributions inform the mapping of UN documents addressing cultures of peace that follows.

## THE UN: DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION ON A CULTURE OF PEACE

The UN General Assembly's *Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace*, Resolution A/53/243 (1999), names eight areas that contribute to a culture of peace. This paper explores these areas to further cement understandings of positive peace. Inspired by Peace Studies' characteristic "critical normativity,"<sup>23</sup> this section of the paper takes a normative approach to assess how ethical investing can aid in the moral project of incarnating cultures of peace. Owing to the UN *Declaration's* origins in a cross-cultural and international moral consensus, this paper organizes its argument with the aid of A/53/243's eight areas as found under Section B, "Strengthening Actions at the National, Regional and International Levels by all Relevant Actors."<sup>24</sup> As universities and colleges can be relevant actors on all three of these levels, this section unfolds how ethical investing strikes a chord within each of the eight areas. The goal is to demonstrate to policymakers that ethical investment geared toward socio-ecological flourishing is a cogent policy to pursue. This cogency comes into focus most clearly if those making decisions are sympathetic to the moral project of incarnating cultures of peace, as endorsed by the UN General Assembly.

### *Promotion of Human Rights*

Resolution A/53/243 names the promotion of human rights as contributing to a culture of peace. A list of actions related to how human rights strengthen cultures of peace can be found in paragraph eleven, which calls for the full implementation of the *Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action*.<sup>25</sup> The *Vienna Declaration* was produced as a result of the multinational and cross-cultural World Conference on Human Rights in 1993. It contains a nuanced view of both human rights and strategies to ensure the recognition and implementation of those rights.<sup>26</sup> A/53/243 also names several other areas for action, including (1) further support for the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights;<sup>27</sup> (2) the development of strong national strategies and institutions promoting human rights;<sup>28</sup> (3)

the right to development as laid out in the *Vienna Declaration* (including concerns of inter-generational justice and environments free from toxins);<sup>29</sup> and (4) the further dissemination and promotion of the *United Nations Declaration on Human Rights*<sup>30</sup> on multiple levels.<sup>31</sup>

Resolution A/53/243 discusses human rights within a framework that acknowledges the importance of socio-ecological flourishing. Further, issues of social justice, ecological health, and our duties to future generations are understood as inseparable from efforts to more fully realize human rights in the world. In this regard, these UN documents that address cultures of peace explicitly name several ethical projects. These projects can be actively supported or withered based upon capital flows. Hence, to invest endowment funds in endeavours that purposefully promote human rights in the manner laid out by the UN is a way to buttress a culture of peace.

### *Peace Education*

Resolution A/53/243 cites the importance of peace education for fostering a culture of peace. In 1997, the General Assembly requested a document on cultures of peace. The result, a *Consolidated Report Containing a Draft Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace*,<sup>32</sup> A/53/370, states,

Education is the principle means of promoting a culture of peace. This includes not only formal education in schools, but also informal and non-formal education in the full range of social institutions, including the family and the media. The very concept of power needs to be transformed—from the logic of force and fear to the force of reason and love. Education should be expanded so that basic literacy is joined by the “second literacy” of “learning to live together.” A global effort of education and training, supported by the United Nations, should empower people at all levels with the peace-making skills of dialogue, mediation, conflict transformation, consensus-building, cooperation and non-violent social change. This campaign should be based upon universal principles of human rights, democratic principles and social justice, and at the same time, build upon the unique peace-making traditions and experiences of each society. It should be linked with other campaigns already launched on regional and national levels, such as the initiative for education for democratic citizenship of the Council of Europe.<sup>33</sup>

This foundational character of peace education for the UN<sup>34</sup> permeates A/53/243's opening section, which addresses action items to strengthen cultures of peace and includes a paragraph on peace education. Notable are requirements for education and activities that encourage children to deal with conflict in a nonviolent manner, respect human dignity, and live tolerant lives.<sup>35</sup> Further emphasized is the need for international cooperation to ensure education for all, especially girls,<sup>36</sup> as a form of social, human, and economic development.<sup>37</sup>

As a strategy of violence intervention and prevention, it is important to consider how investing undermines or supports peace education. For example, what moral responsibilities do educational institutions such as universities and colleges have toward their endowment funds? Critical thinking should consider the systemic consequences and impacts of capital flows from post-secondary institutions on both peace education and the values these institutions extol. In light of the "triple bottom line," which accounts for social, economic, and ecological factors,<sup>38</sup> capital from post-secondary institutions should not support industries that actively detract from these values and peace education initiatives. Rather, by means of selective ethical investment, these institutions could incentivize endeavours that integrate and promote the values of peace education, such as hiring graduates with the skills mentioned in the UN documents.

### *Sustainable Human Development for All*

Another area that Resolution A/53/243 names as contributing to a culture of peace is "sustainable human development for all." Generally, the resolution treats sustainable human development's role in mainstream economic and social terms. The small exceptions are references to sustainable food security<sup>39</sup> and the petition to "incorporate capacity-building in development strategies and projects to ensure environmental sustainability, including preservation and regeneration of the natural resource base."<sup>40</sup> An integral perspective on human economy, which sees all human endeavours within intertwined social and ecological relationships, would view this mainstream approach as problematic. Of particular concern is the retention of a technical and anthropocentric orientation to the natural world, despite the use of the language of sustainability. That said, Resolution A/53/243 does raise important issues around constructing a durable culture of peace by emphasizing the need to eradicate poverty while reducing economic, gender, and social

inequalities.<sup>41</sup> It also asserts that sustainable human development cannot take place when people are unduly limited in their self-determination, as in a colonial context.<sup>42</sup> Positively, A/53/243 names a role for development initiatives, which can actively incentivize and support reintegration and reconciliation processes for all in post-conflict situations.<sup>43</sup> Thus, there are many points of entry that reflect the concerns raised by an integral perspective on human economy. There is also common ground with those upholding the social dimension of the triple bottom line.

Ethical investments foster cultures of peace not only through programming oriented toward integral or holistic human development but also by incentivizing behaviours and outcomes in conciliation processes. This incentivizing can encourage the tolerance and cooperative projects so important to fostering cultures of peace. Moreover, sustainable human development as described in Resolution A/53/243 is a prime location for investment to make an impact. For instance, it addresses durable development in a way that encourages long-term thinking for overcoming narrow or segmented interests in favour of deeper equality. Sustainable human development is a key locus to which policymakers can purposely direct investment capital from post-secondary institutions.

### *Participatory Governance*

Resolution A/53/243 cites participatory governance as a key area for building a culture of peace. Document A/53/370 also names participatory governance as an essential action item: “The fostering of *democratic participation and governance* is essential for the development of a culture of peace and non-violence.”<sup>44</sup> It further associates authoritarianism with a culture of violence and war.<sup>45</sup> Since A/53/243 does not include this specific language, opting instead for a general affirmation of “the full range of actions to promote democratic principles and practices” on both formal and informal levels,<sup>46</sup> we turn for more substantive content to A/53/370, which emphasizes participation at all levels of decision-making. A/53/370 upholds the importance of responsive government, strong civil society groups,<sup>47</sup> and the need for public officials to be trained in dispute resolution.<sup>48</sup> It also extols the importance of applying democratic principles in a way that allows people to use traditional cultural practices and resources to contextualize the work of building peaceful societies free of corruption and organized crime.<sup>49</sup>

Purposely supporting such community initiatives is a prime place for

ethical investing to contribute to a participatory ethos in society. In terms of post-secondary institutions' endowment funds, this is also a crucial area for ethical investment aimed at fostering socio-ecological flourishing. Indeed, Amster argues that the present social and ecological crises represent opportunities for communities to craft collaborative solutions, addressing issues such as scarcity of resources. As a poignant example, Amster cites the *acequias* community-operated water systems in the Southwestern United States, which manage irrigation infrastructure and deal creatively with the conflicts arising from water allocation. In so doing, the *acequias* benefit the social and political health of local communities.<sup>50</sup> Consequently, from Amster's peace ecology perspective, local communities working in federated relationships have the potential to ensure the vitality of the essential commons of human existence, such as air and water, so that they can continue to provide the basis for human life on Earth. Under these conditions, people can exercise "power with" rather than "power over." They then participate in a transformative feedback loop between the personal and the global through which "we can help restabilize the systems that support us, turning the current vicious cycle of degradation-conflict into one of sustainability-peace."<sup>51</sup> As a result, claiming participatory spaces destabilizes a political economy of domination and militarism that, as Garret Harding argues, holds injustice as a necessity.<sup>52</sup> In contrast, participation benefits a political ecology of peace, nonviolence, and cooperation, which fosters the necessary conditions for socio-ecological flourishing on this planet.

Participation is crucial to overcoming the short-sightedness that accompanies narrow interests that do not support the common good. To support participatory endeavours, for example, a post-secondary institution might invest in community-owned and governed enterprises where no community member is excluded from decision-making processes that concern the community's future. An added advantage is that such enterprises locate these decisions in that local context rather than in far-away corporate boardrooms where too often decisions are made with a narrow definition of profitability. Even if policymakers at colleges and universities are unwilling to invest in community enterprises, they can still make a positive impact with their capital by supporting corporations with records of participatory principles, responsive government, and strong civil society across classes, nationalities, and genders. They can contribute to building a culture of peace by publically naming this criterion as integral to the formation of their ethically-informed

portfolios.

### *Gender Equity*

Gender equality is named in Resolution A/53/243 as an important area for building a culture of peace. The resolution firmly places “actions to ensure equality between men and women”<sup>53</sup> as central to this effort. Further, it affirms that men and women should be equal partners in political, social, and economic decision-making. Particular mention is made of the need to eliminate discrimination and violence. A/53/243 also names the importance of supporting women who have been the victim of violent acts, whether at home, in the workplace, or elsewhere.<sup>54</sup> To realize these steps toward a culture of peace, A/53/243 calls for “adequate resources and political will”<sup>55</sup> to implement the *Beijing Platform for Action* adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995.<sup>56</sup>

One place to make a positive impact with ethical investing is to incentivize women’s equality, even if one’s goal is merely to see an end to human poverty. As intersectionality theory demonstrates, similar forces coalesce both to persecute women and to marginalize people in terms of class and race.<sup>57</sup> Due to what Eaton terms “interlocking layers of oppression,”<sup>58</sup> these forces negatively affect the larger life of the community. In other words, equality of the type central to this paper’s argument is unobtainable if gender discrimination persists. Full and equal participation of all people is a necessary feature of any vision of socio-ecological flourishing that retains a moral integrity based upon ethical consistency. “Putting your capital where your mouth is” must include checks put in place by policymakers to ensure that post-secondary institutions’ investment dollars do not contribute to the reproduction of gender inequalities.

### *Multifaceted Freedom of Expression*

Resolution A/53/243 names “multifaceted freedom of expression” as essential to building a culture of peace. Integrating “actions to support participatory communication and the free flow of information and knowledge,”<sup>59</sup> A/53/243 emphasizes the media’s role in promoting a culture of peace. This includes an imperative to “promote mass communication that enables communities to express their needs and participate in decision-making.”<sup>60</sup> Although A/53/370 frequently deplores manifestations of violence, A/53/243 specifies “violence” in only two sections: in decrying violence against women

as noted above,<sup>61</sup> and in noting the harm caused to cultures of peace by depictions of violence in the media, including internet violence.<sup>62</sup> It also names the importance of systems that support open information for establishing cultures of peace. A/53/370 fleshes this out, invoking the language of *The Universal Charter of Human Rights*,<sup>63</sup> which states, “Freedom of opinion, expression and information, recognized as an integral aspect of human rights and fundamental freedoms, is a vital factor in the strengthening of peace and international understanding. It is needed to replace the secrecy and manipulation of information which characterize the culture of war.”<sup>64</sup>

In response to these imperatives, policymakers can purposely and publicly exclude certain problematic enterprises from post-secondary investment portfolios. For example, they might exclude media conglomerates that limit freedom of expression. Furthermore, ethical investing can incentivize the creation of channels for the free flow of information that benefit the common good. Such purposeful incentivizing could allow nonviolent ideas to develop, grow, and be integrated into the socio-political life of both majority and minority communities. In this light, it is an act of violence intervention and prevention for policymakers at universities and colleges to encourage multifaceted freedom of expression through a careful allocation of investment capital. Such allocation can help grow the type of cultural capital that is essential to both socio-ecological flourishing and the incarnation of cultures of peace.

### *Tolerance, Empathy and Solidarity*

“Tolerance, empathy and solidarity” is another area Resolution A/53/243 names as contributing to a culture of peace. Section 14 of A/53/243’s *The Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace* emphasizes the need to further support several existing UN initiatives. These initiatives include those working for dialogue among civilizations, rights of Indigenous cultures, and the growth of tolerance generally. In line with these initiatives, this section extols the importance of learning from local, Indigenous, and traditional forms of conflict resolution to foster tolerant societies. Naming a need to promote cooperation with migrants, refugees, and displaced persons, it also values actions that “foster understanding, tolerance and solidarity throughout society, in particular with vulnerable groups.”<sup>65</sup> In more general terms, this section closes by associating cultures of peace with solidarity “among peoples and within and among nations.”<sup>66</sup>

We see that active tolerance, empathy, and solidarity are key forms of leaven that grow cultures of peace. Ethical investing can support peacebuilding initiatives by creating spaces for these values to extend more fully to vulnerable groups. This is important because investments too often support the type of exploitative corporations that serve and promote narrow interests. Motivated by solidarity, policymakers can seek out endeavours that invest in marginalized communities. This is not charity but rather a careful discernment of opportunities which ensure long-term returns for post-secondary spaces to ensure their financial sustainability while also encouraging the growth of tolerance, empathy, and solidarity. The possibility of such of mutually-enhancing outcomes involving visionary policymakers, cultures of peace, and socio-ecological flourishing is a tangible promise of ethical investing.

#### *International Peace and Security Based on Disarmament*

“International peace and security based on disarmament” is the final area that Resolution A/53/243 names as contributing to a culture of peace. Significantly, the section entitled *The Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace*, which deals with international peace and security, opens by naming a fundamental imperative for “general and complete” disarmament buttressed by “strict and effective” international controls.<sup>67</sup> It emphasizes the need to draw lessons for building cultures of peace from those countries that have undergone “military conversion.” The resolution also names the importance of eliminating illicit production and trafficking in small arms and light weapons.<sup>68</sup> Further, A/53/243 recognizes the importance of social and economic well-being, decries the use of food and medicine as weapons for political aims, and asserts the need for days of tranquillity and sanctuary zones where human rights can be realized even in conflict situations. Finally, it emphasizes post-conflict programming, in which demobilization, decommissioning, and the reintegration of combatants and displaced persons are key for establishing cultures of peace at both national and international levels.<sup>69</sup>

War hurts people and damages the natural world. The idea that security can be derived from strength has had a long life in post-secondary institutions. Academics have advocated policies like Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD). The MAD approach sourced the relative peace between the superpowers in the second strike capability of the nuclear arsenals of the USSR

and the United States.<sup>70</sup> Yet, critical thinking can challenge factors including the allocation of resources, the socio-ecological footprint of uranium extraction, and the dangers of weapons of mass destruction. As mentioned above, our college excludes armaments as part of its policy on investment.<sup>71</sup> Such exclusions are important; it remains a chilling exercise to trace the capital flow that has facilitated the killing of persons through armaments. At the end of the day, do we really want profit accrued in this way to fund the educational project? Exposing the violence induced by capital flows from educational institutions can lead us to reflect on the importance of cultures of peace in our contemporary contexts. It also points to the importance of actively supporting endeavours to demilitarize society. Given the negative impact of militarism on people and the planet, it becomes important for policymakers embracing ethical investing to encourage military conversion. Here, they can employ capital to incentivize the redirection of military capacity toward substantively peaceful applications.

#### DIVESTMENT, FOSSIL FUELS, AND POST SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

Fossil fuel divestment specifically calls for universities, cities, and other institutions to stop new investments in fossil fuel infrastructure and to commence removing fossil fuels companies from their portfolios. Divestment is being advocated due to certain companies' links to (1) practices accelerating global climate change, (2) local impacts that degrade the quality of the environment and people's health, (3) human rights violations, and (4) other questionable business practices. The specific focus includes prominent companies such as ExxonMobil, Royal Dutch Shell, BP, and BHP Billiton.

Such divestment not only holds out the promise of good moral results but can also make good economic sense even within the mainstream economic paradigm. Mark Carney, the governor of the Bank of England, former governor of the Bank of Canada and chairman of the G20's Financial Stability Board, has warned investors that placing too much capital into oil and gas stocks increases the risk of financial collapse in a climate-changed world.<sup>72</sup> Furthermore, a study conducted by S&P Capital IQ before the current dip in oil prices found that a \$1 billion endowment fund portfolio, which excluded morally problematic companies listed by the activist group Fossil Free,<sup>73</sup> would have grown to a \$2.26 billion endowment in the period 2003-13. In contrast, that same portfolio, but including fossil fuel companies, would

have had a value of \$2.14 billion.<sup>74</sup> University and college endowment funds can be very large. The prime example is Harvard University's endowment, the richest in the United States, at over \$36 billion.<sup>75</sup> Even the University of Saskatchewan's endowment, the second smallest among the U15 Group of Canadian Research Universities, is close to \$300 million.<sup>76</sup> Divestment of these funds can have a tangible impact, eroding both the economic capital and, particularly in the case of legitimating institutions like universities and colleges, the social capital of corporations whose business practices unduly harm people and other members of the Earth community. Reinvesting the freed capital in projects that support socio-ecological flourishing can have a positive impact. There are both pragmatic and ethical reasons for divestment action. In line with its research question, this paper focuses primarily on the moral reasons for ethical investing.

A growing number of university and college endowment funds, church organizations, foundations, pension funds, professional associations, and municipalities have embraced partial and, in many cases, full divestment from fossil fuels as a way to live out their values. The list of those committed to this policy change encompasses some prominent and somewhat surprising examples. These include the University of Glasgow,<sup>77</sup> the University of Hawaii,<sup>78</sup> Stanford University (only from coal), and Georgetown University (only from coal).<sup>79</sup> These actions are similar to and overlap with trends of other institutions and organizations: the Episcopal Church in the United States,<sup>80</sup> the United Church of Christ—United States,<sup>81</sup> the United Church of Canada,<sup>82</sup> the Church of England (from the tar sands and thermal coal),<sup>83</sup> the Rockefeller Brothers Fund,<sup>84</sup> Ben & Jerry's Foundation,<sup>85</sup> the British Medical Association,<sup>86</sup> the Canadian Medical Association,<sup>87</sup> the City of Oxford,<sup>88</sup> the City of Victoria, BC,<sup>89</sup> the City of San Francisco Pension System,<sup>90</sup> and both the California Public Employees' Retirement System and the California State Teachers' Retirement System (from thermal coal via California Senate Bill 185).<sup>91</sup> Some of these institutions and organizations may be expected to embrace a rubric of divestment. However, the fact that the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, to pick one noteworthy example, with its origins in big oil money,<sup>92</sup> can choose to divest from fossil fuels, provides real hope for a substantive transformation of dominant economic models. Seeking to express such hope in concrete terms, in Canada alone there are over thirty<sup>93</sup> active student-led campaigns on campuses in all regions of the country. These campaigns are taking place at institutions ranging from major

research universities like McGill, University of Toronto, and the University of British Columbia to smaller undergraduate-focused teaching institutions such as the University of Winnipeg, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, and Mount Allison University.<sup>94</sup> Many of these groups employ social media to organize their activism for positive social and ecological change.

### WHY POLICY CHANGE IS NEEDED: JOHN BURROUGH'S POTATO BUG AND THE PRESENT MOMENT OF SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL CRISIS

While there have been successes, many student-led campaigns have struggled to reach and convince policymakers. This outcome may be expected in a country like Canada that bases a good portion of its economic programming on extractive industry. To overcome some of these challenges on the level of “insight” or holistic understanding, this paper proposes a two-pronged campaign. Such a campaign would encourage decision-makers at post-secondary institutions to embrace divestment from fossil fuels. It would also emphasize a positive opportunity and duty to reinvest in endeavours that foster socio-ecological flourishing. Given the earlier discussion of ethical investing as a method to build cultures of peace, this paper aims to create larger spaces for discussion of this reinvestment option, and unfolds the value of framing ethical investing as a moral project that supports socio-ecological flourishing. To demonstrate the context that demands ethical investing, we begin by mapping our ethical location as members of an Earth community. Then we consider our membership status in light of humanity’s current situation.

Unsustainable practices are hurting marginalized people, degrading ecosystems, and endangering the diversity of vital life on this planet. These realities are drawing the Earth community so close to a tipping point that our current situation, as seen above, is appropriately described as one of “socio-ecological crisis.”<sup>95</sup> Companies directly responsible for such unsustainability are sold privileged spaces on campuses. Further, these companies are supported through the rededication of college and university facilities and of human resources on these campuses. At the University of Saskatchewan, it is impossible to ignore recruitment of students, and Indigenous students in particular, to extractive industries. Recruiters of this kind include representatives of tar sands and nuclear mining companies. Moreover, such industries provide part of the funding that pays for programming on our main campus. Even our college, specializing in social science and the humanities, is funded

in part through government transfers. This is problematic as the government of Saskatchewan receives a good portion of its revenue from unsustainable industries. Many of our neighbours in Saskatoon work in the head offices of companies engaged in extractive enterprises. A number of University of Saskatchewan students come from rural communities where the extraction takes place. Some students and their families have also felt the negative effects on human health from those activities. This situation illustrates how we are all tied up in presently existing unsustainability.

Frequently, unsustainable endeavours fail to account for the long term social and ecological costs when calculating their bottom lines. Yet, the net effects of such extractive activities indicate that change is required. Writing in 1948 of the conservationist John Burroughs, who researched the potato bug, Aldo Leopold notes that we have arrived at a point of choice. We can choose to be remembered either as “a society respectful of its own and all other life, capable of inhabiting the earth without defiling it or [as] a society like that of John Burroughs’ potato bug, which exterminated the potato, and thereby exterminated itself. As one or the other, we shall be judged in ‘the derisive silence of history.’”<sup>96</sup> If we wish to claim some sort of cosmic value beyond that of an insect that exterminates itself by destroying that which sustains it (i.e., John Burroughs’s Potato Bug), then we must demonstrate the wisdom to foster the conditions for a good quality of human life for all. The importance of not destroying the planet that sustains us has a great deal of significance for the human project. As Amster emphasizes in *Peace Ecology*, the imperative of our times cannot be only to save a planet that might be healthier without us, but to save ourselves.<sup>97</sup> However, mere survival is a shallow goal compared to using human creativity to flourish in ways that deeply respect life in all its diversity. This imperative for more than mere survival is another reason why we use the language of socio-ecological flourishing to urge policy change regarding post-secondary institutions’ investing policies.

## THE NEED FOR AN INTEGRAL APPROACH TO HUMAN ECONOMY

Socio-ecological flourishing encompasses substantially peaceful and just relationships within the entire planetary community. Getting our species on a path toward such holistic relationships can be facilitated through an integral approach to human economy. Integral economics takes into account the

social, ecological, and long term costs of human activities. It can be difficult to persuade policymakers of these principles, and even more difficult to have decision makers embrace economic policies in line with integral economics. The American Buddhist scholar and activist, David Loy, is helpful here. He proposes that, despite its associations with secularism, the market is a dominant religion. Moreover, he argues that this worldview defines and shapes reality in our contemporary world. The religion of the market is so successful, Loy continues, that its supporting premises are often held as normative. We assume that it is natural when value is assessed by price. Further, Loy highlights that conforming to market principles becomes an acceptable justification for morally questionable activities. Our acquiescence to the precepts of such thinking permits the inequality, poverty, ecological destruction, and malnutrition that are the actual consequences of the commoditization of labour, food, and land. For Loy, the religion of the market has a “diminished understanding of what the world is and what life can be.” As it is supported by advertising and the quasi-theological “social science” of mainstream economics, the religion of the market can seem beyond reform.<sup>98</sup> However, there are many reasons to bring the market into the realm of those things we believe we can change. Indeed, for those deeply concerned with any or all of nourishing peace, social justice, or ecological health, such transformative action is increasingly imperative.

Cultural historian and self-described “geologist” Thomas Berry’s articulation of peace and justice is sharply juxtaposed with current economic processes. Too often, the human economy operates without taking into account the true cost of so-called “wealth-production” as it negatively affects the creative functioning of the planet. When gross human product can grow as gross Earth product shrinks,<sup>99</sup> we have what Berry names the “fictional context” of economics.<sup>100</sup> The issues raised here include those noted by critics of neo-liberal ideology such as Henry Giroux,<sup>101</sup> but they run much deeper. Invoking the ultimate context for human activity, Haudenosaunee Chief and scholar Oren Lyons emphasizes, “All political life depends on Mother Earth.”<sup>102</sup> This worldview-level insight, taught through the long-term oriented, multidirectional seven generation principle,<sup>103</sup> considers the contributions of the seven generations that preceded and those that will follow decision makers engaged in policy formation and reform. Here we have a way to counter the assumed irreformability of the market, build up substantive peace, foster ecological health, and incarnate the principles of

social justice based on a human morality that takes responsibility for all members of the Earth community.

Stan McKay, Cree minister, former moderator of the United Church Canada, and advocate for peace and justice, is one voice speaking for such change. McKay grounds the importance of transforming market morality through policy change by recounting an Aboriginal perspective on the integrity of creation. In McKay's rendering, an Aboriginal spiritual worldview is at once profound and simple. All of life is interconnected.<sup>104</sup> The Earth community is irreducibly relational. The image of gift is employed—not in terms of creation being for people's use,<sup>105</sup> but rather in terms of life as a gift. McKay succinctly ties these elements together: "If creatures and creation are interdependent, it follows that it is not faithful to speak of ownership. Life is understood as a gift, and it makes no sense to claim ownership of any part of the creation."<sup>106</sup>

Policymakers participated in the colonization of Aboriginal peoples in what became Canada.<sup>107</sup> In the process, settlers took "'possession' of a 'vacant, pagan land.'"<sup>108</sup> The resultant system failed to communicate with both Aboriginal people and the land. A consequence of this malaise was pollution and the depletion of resources. These unsustainable results harm life, including the lives of the colonizers. From within an Aboriginal worldview, this is simply "insane, since we live in an environment that gives life but is sensitive to abuse."<sup>109</sup> In part because they grow out of the realities of marginalized peoples, Aboriginal perspectives on the relatedness of the Earth community "challenge faceless corporations to be faithful to their humanity."<sup>110</sup> Now, when "our earth mother is in a time of pain and she sustains many thoughtless children,"<sup>111</sup> this challenge represents a crucial moral project. Medicine for this pain, says McKay, is founded in a deep respect, which grows from the integrity of creation that "allows for diversity within the unity of the creator."<sup>112</sup> Such respect extends across communities, through dialogue, to the entire natural world.<sup>113</sup> Thus, a methodology for decision-making grounds policy formation and reform within a multi-directional timescale. This holistic understanding of time is more conducive to fostering socio-ecological flourishing than the undue rush for narrowly-defined efficiency in much contemporary Western political practice. The law of the Gitksan, another Indigenous community with an integral worldview, explicitly connects concern for future generations and care for the Earth. Decision-making and policy formation happens through the *Sidigim*

*haanak'a*—people responsible to ensure that “the environment is conducive for the animals to continue their lives.”<sup>114</sup>

In our current socio-political context, in which human-induced ecological violence is “indeed closing down the major life systems of the planet,” such worldviews and their recovery is an urgent moral project for members of all cultures.<sup>115</sup> We face an ethical imperative to pursue ecological wisdom. This imperative is an antidote to thinking that we can somehow remove ourselves from the Earth and universe communities from which we emerged, and continue to be sustained. Ecological wisdom informs the crafting of policies that support an integral approach to human economy, such as ethical investing aimed at socio-ecological flourishing. It calls on policymakers to ensure the vitality of people and the planetary community in line with the imperative of Gitksan law.

Grounding his thoughts in such holistic wisdom, Lyons noted in his *Sol Kane Lecture* on peace and justice that currently dominant economics cannot serve as our moral compass because “the market cannot think.”<sup>116</sup> Indeed, when market morality is made normative, we are left with inequality for the Earth and its human inhabitants. Environmental harms are distributed unequally. This situation raises important ecojustice issues related to the health and well-being of both people and the planet.<sup>117</sup> Whenever human beings on the periphery of both global and local societies pay the greatest price for market morality, from a Berryite perspective, we have to recognize certain pathological tendencies inherent in our currently dominant economic systems.<sup>118</sup>

One of the tasks of critical thinking is to expose the dubious benefits that limited liability corporations often accrue from the myopia of power politics.<sup>119</sup> Critical thinking is to be at the heart of university and college learning precisely because, in our contemporary world, “the corporations [are] too plundering and the government too subservient.”<sup>120</sup> We need to see the consequences of our taken-for-granted dominant economic assumptions. The contravening forces are very strong and too many humans with good intentions participate in the structures that accompany them.<sup>121</sup> Nonetheless, if economic systems hurt people and the planet, they need to be transformed so as to foster socio-ecological flourishing. Effecting such a transformation is a key part of what Berry calls “the great work” of our time.<sup>122</sup> It follows that there is an urgent need to apply critical thinking to the human construction of the market. With his integral worldview that celebrates the gift of diverse

life, McKay asserts, “we maintain that the earth is to be shared, and we continue to challenge faceless corporations to be faithful to their humanity.”<sup>123</sup> Given the connectivity of humans with the rest of the Earth community, the joining of social justice, ecological health, and nourishing peace marks a path to exit from the pathological cycles that accompany market morality’s assumed normativity. To take that path we need only apply our human ability for critical thinking which, in turn, problematizes market morality. This can open spaces to help humanize economic systems that are currently hurting both people and the planet. Surely our universities and colleges ought to count among the locations for such critical thinking.

### THE UNIVERSITY, ETHICAL INVESTING, AND TRANSFORMATION

We have argued that ethical investing is one way to contribute toward a transformation towards cultures of peace. Indeed, it emerges as a basic matter of justice when one considers “the triple bottom line,”<sup>124</sup> which notes responsibilities not only to economic “bottom lines,” but also to social and ecological “bottom lines.” When applying critical thinking to the sustainability of colleges and universities, especially in terms of a triple bottom line, an ethical imperative emerges that institutions reflect the values we hope to see grounded in the world.

Although easily comprehensible as a concept, applying a triple bottom line framework is difficult. This difficulty is the hold that the religion of the market and the “fictional context” of economics have on our moral imaginations. However, actively imagining more vital and nourishing relationships<sup>125</sup> with diverse humans and life communities of the planet can drive positive social change and policy formation to support alternatives that incarnate socio-ecological flourishing.<sup>126</sup> These efforts can also nurture cultures of peace. Universities like ours, who style themselves as a people’s university,<sup>127</sup> have a responsibility to care for the common good of all people. This duty includes caring for the health of the ecological world upon which we ultimately all depend.

Ethical investing requires both divestment from certain industries that threaten the health of people and the planetary community and a second movement to reinvest in endeavours that foster socio-ecological flourishing. The above discussion on cultures of peace begins to show how this double movement can be correlated with acts of peacebuilding. Many of us know

that the current situation is untenable. If universities and colleges are really the home of critical thinking, they are important locations from which to shift this situation. Part of their necessary leadership involves ceasing to align with narrow interests that threaten the common good. Particularly in regards to ethical integrity, colleges and universities must extract themselves from arrangements that finance, subsidize, legitimate, and otherwise support pathological enterprises that ignore the triple bottom line. Moreover, as some already have done, post-secondary institutions can take the lead by using their endowment funds to foster a better future. The choices universities and colleges make with that money has not only symbolic importance but also tangible consequences for people and the planet. From a Peace Studies perspective on climate justice that helps reveal how dominant economics harms the most vulnerable,<sup>128</sup> it is not only possible but increasingly necessary to divest from fossil fuels and reinvest in enterprises that support socio-ecological flourishing.

#### CONCLUSION: AN IMPERATIVE TO FOSTER CULTURES OF PEACE

John Paul Lederach emphasizes that truth, justice, and mercy are present in any conflict.<sup>129</sup> The main thrust of a culture of peace is to channel such energies into creative, rather than destructive, examples of human endeavour. Such moral projects spill across the theoretical reflections, categories, methods, and orientations mapped above, marking a confluence between socio-ecological flourishing and cultures of peace. This paper argues that one key route toward buttressing cultures of peace is policy change. Specifically in a time of anthropogenic socio-ecological crisis, universities and colleges ought to be investing money from their endowment funds in human activities geared towards socio-ecological flourishing.

Some controlling financial officers (CFOs) at post-secondary institutions consider sustainability narrowly, in terms of accruing as much capital as quickly as possible for their home university or college. However, if we accept that we exist in essential and intertwined relationships with the rest of creation, then it is with quality of life, understood as existing within the Earth community, where ultimate profit must lie. Limited accounts of institutional sustainability, which overlook an integral approach to human economy, emerge as short-sighted and misplaced.

This simple point is difficult to convey to decision makers in a way

that motivates them to change policies to better support socio-ecological flourishing. Such difficulties are compounded whenever the myopia of market morality remains dominant and unchallenged. This disconnect raises challenges for students and faculty seeking to change investment practices that reproduce dominant market assumptions. It is a regrettable feedback loop: the substantial capital that endowment funds have at their disposal too often serves to reinforce market morality. However, as this paper has begun to demonstrate, other options are possible when socio-ecological flourishing is prioritized in policy formation. These options become more tenable when critical thinking backed by an integral worldview is applied to the logic of the market. The challenge of ethical consistency is particularly poignant when a post-secondary institution's ethos is presented to the public through mediums such as mission statements that invoke visionary leadership, critical thinking, ecological health, substantive peace, and social justice.

In most cases at the moment, it seems that students are taking the lead on shifting investing policy at their home institutions. These student activists often cite insights with moral implications that they have harvested as part of their education. Yet, here is a prime example of a space where, due to the heavy layers of institutional culture and regulation that abound at universities and colleges, concerned faculty and staff can help students navigate the complexities of post-secondary governance. Working together, they can gain the necessary access to reach policymakers in a more effective manner. This is certainly a time-consuming challenge but one worth undertaking at this juncture in planetary history.

We have called for consistency with institutional values as expressed in mission statements with the words, "putting your capital where your mouth is." The methodology of ethical investing presented in this paper is not one of revolution but transformation, seeking to bring together the fruits of the educational project and its involvement in economics to support the creative functioning of the Earth community. Because of the interconnectivity within the planet's web of life, this coupling also enhances social justice, ecological health, and nourishing peace. Such an incarnation of transformative values is part of a larger "great work," namely, incarnating cultures of peace. We can no longer avoid the moral imperatives of our generation's great work. As the world now has an estimated 7.4 billion people sharing limited space,<sup>130</sup> incarnating cultures of peace is no longer an optional moral activity. Indeed, in this situation, cultures of peace become an essential expression of human

life. Due to their frequent association with critical thinking and visionary leadership, educational institutions, especially universities and colleges, become important spaces for fostering this transformation. What these institutions do with their investments has great moral and symbolic importance. Given the size of endowments in the present era, it also can have immediate and tangible impacts. Therefore, it is increasingly necessary that post-secondary institutions choose wisely when crafting their investment policies. Ethical investing that actively supports human endeavours geared toward socio-ecological flourishing emerges as one path that universities and colleges can take to help ensure a vital, just, and peaceful future.

#### ENDNOTES

1. See Christopher Hrynkow and Dennis Patrick O'Hara, "Earth Matters: Thomas Berry, The Pacifism of Religious Cosmology and The Need for Ecojustice," *Journal for Peace and Justice Studies* 22, no. 2 (Fall 2012): 3-28.
2. See, for example, Kairos Staff, "Erica Violet Lee," accessed 4 September 2015, <http://www.kairoscanada.org/events/time4reconciliation/speakers-bios/#erica>.
3. "Idle No More Calls on All People to Join in a Peaceful Revolution to Honour Indigenous Sovereignty and to Protect Land and Water," *Idle No More*, accessed 4 September 2015, <http://www.idlenomore.ca/>.
4. See "STM Just Youth," *St. Thomas More Just Youth Group*, accessed 4 September 2015, <https://www.facebook.com/stmjstmyouth>.
5. Heather Eaton, "Forces of Nature: Aesthetics and Ethics," in *Aesthetics and Ethics in Environmental Change: Hiking through the Arts, Ecology, Religion and Ethics of the Environment*, ed. Sigurd Bergmann, Irmgard Blindow and Konrad Ott (Berlin: LIT, 2013), 109.
6. See Heather Eaton's argument that the response to the current global climate crisis needs to work more out of insight and less from a merely data-based perspective. Heather Eaton, "The Spirit of Climate Change," *Responding to Climate Change: Scientific Realities, Spiritual Imperatives*. The 11th Conference of the International Environment Forum Responding to Climate Change: Scientific Realities, Spiritual Imperatives, Ottawa, 17 October 2007, <http://tyne.ca/ief2007/>

- uploads/Heather\_Eaton.doc. On the use of insight in a transformative manner, see Kenneth R. Melchin and Cheryl A. Picard, *Transforming Conflict Through Insight* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2008).
7. On these conceptual intersections, see Simon Appolloni and Christopher Hrynkow, "In Search of an Authentic Pax Gaia: Connecting Wonder, the Moral Imagination and Socio-Ecological Flourishing," forthcoming in *Worldviews* 20, no. 2 (2016).
  8. *St. Thomas More College Investment Management Policy and Guidelines*. Single page document obtained from St. Thomas More College's President's Office. Revised 2015.
  9. See Stéphane M. McLachlan, "Water Is a Living Thing": *Environmental and Human Health Implications of the Athabasca Oil Sands for the Mikisew Cree First Nation and Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation in Northern Alberta. Phase Two Report*, 7 July 2014, <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/nu0lftnz521nm46/AAB08I8-ByBKphpdvIfMudcAa/FULL%20REPORT%20Fort%20Chipewyan%20Env%20Health%20July%202014.pdf?dl=0>.
  10. See Micheal Toledan, "Indigenous Canadians Are Fighting the Uranium Mining Industry," 11 February 2015, <http://www.vice.com/read/a-dene-alliance-formed-to-resist-uranium-and-tar-sands-mining-in-saskatchewan-892>.
  11. On nuclear waste storage issues, see, for example, Committee for Future Generations, "Resolutions," accessed 15 January 2016, <https://committeeforfuturegenerations.wordpress.com/resolutions/>. On the issues of the tar sands and human health, see McLachlan, "Water is a Living Thing."
  12. For example, in slight opposition to Johan Galtung's original framing of positive peace as the absence of structural violence, with negative peace conceived as the absence of direct or interpersonal violence, Trudy Govier suggests that "we might charitably amend the concept so that positive peace amounts to the absence of *both* interpersonal *and* structural violence." Trudy Govier, "Violence, Nonviolence, and Definitions," *Peace Research: The Canadian Journal of Peace and Conflict Studies* 40, no. 2 (2008): 64.
  13. This latter point, along with meaning of these three terms, is developed

- below and in Christopher Hrynkow, “The New Story, Transformative Learning and Socio-Ecological Flourishing: Education at a Crucial Juncture in Planetary History,” in *Sustainable Well-being: Concepts, Issues, and Educational Practice*, ed. Frank Deer et al. (Winnipeg, MB: Education for Sustainable Well-Being, 2014), 105-20, [http://www.eswb-press.org/uploads/1/2/8/9/12899389/sustainable\\_well-being\\_2014.pdf](http://www.eswb-press.org/uploads/1/2/8/9/12899389/sustainable_well-being_2014.pdf).
14. Ken Booth describes Peace Studies as possessing a quality of “critical normativity” in his discussion of the normative elements that inform Critical Security Studies. See Ken Booth, “Critical Explorations,” in *Critical Security Studies and World Politics*, ed. Ken Booth (London: Lynne Rienner, 2005), 1-20.
  15. On “grounded hope” for transformative social change, see Edmund O’Sullivan, “Emancipatory Hope: Transformative Learning and the Strange Attractors,” in *Holistic Learning and Spirituality in Education: Breaking New Ground*, ed. John P. Miller et al. (Albany, NY: University of New York Press, 2005), 71.
  16. See, for example, Justice and Peace Studies at the University of St. Thomas Staff, “The Circle of Practice,” accessed 15 January 2016, <https://www.stthomas.edu/justpeace/academics/>. Or consider the Peace and Justice Studies Association’s motto, “creating a just and peaceful world through research, education, and action” and its reported list of values: (1) Active nonviolence as a positive force for social change, (2) Critical analysis of institutions and social structures, (3) Societal transformation toward justice, (4) Equitable sharing of world resources, (5) Life-long education: community-based and service learning, (6) Innovative and effective pedagogy, (7) Liberatory use of technology and media research in support of community needs, (8) Effective networks and alliances. “About the Peace and Justice Studies Association,” *Peace and Justice Studies Association*, accessed 15 January 2016, <https://www.peacejusticestudies.org/about>.
  17. See Abigail B. Bakan and Yasmeen Abu-Laban, “Palestinian Resistance and International Solidarity: The BDS campaign,” *Race and Class* 51, no. 1 (July 2009): 29-54.
  18. Mai Carter Hallward, *Transnational Activism and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict* (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2013), 16-19.

19. See Mohandas K. Gandhi, "Ahimsa, or the Way of Nonviolence," in *A Peace Reader: Essential Readings on War, Justice, Non-Violence and World Order*, ed. Joseph J. Fahley and Richard Armstrong (New York: Paulist, 1992), 174. On the distinction between principled and pragmatic nonviolence from a Gandhian perspective, see L. K. Bharadwaj, *Peace Review: A Journal of Social Justice* 10, no. 1 (1998): 79-81. See Gene Sharpe, *Waging Nonviolent Struggle: 20th Century Practice and 21st Century Potential* (Boston: Porter Sargent, 1995).
20. See Stephanie Westlund, *Field Exercises: How Veterans Are Healing Themselves through Farming and Outdoor Activities* (Gabriola Island, BC: New Society, 2014).
21. See Randall Amster, *Peace Ecology: Deep Solutions in an Age of Water Scarcity and War* (Boulder, CO: Paradigm, 2015).
22. See, for example, Michael Klare, *Resource Wars: The New Landscape of Global Conflict* (New York: Henry Holt, 2002).
23. Booth, "Critical Explorations," 1-20.
24. United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), *A/53/243: Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace*, 6 October 1999, <http://decade-culture-of-peace.org/resolutions/resA-53-243B.html>.
25. UNGA, *A/53/243*, no. 11(a).
26. *Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, World Conference on Human Rights*, 25 June 1993, [http://www.refworld.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/rwmain?page=search&docid=3ae6b39ec&skip=0&query=vien na% 20declaration](http://www.refworld.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/rwmain?page=search&docid=3ae6b39ec&skip=0&query=vien%20declaration). The declaration was also adopted by the UNGA in December 1993.
27. UNGA, *A/53/243*, no. 11(g).
28. UNGA, *A/53/243*, no. 11(b, c).
29. UNGA, *A/53/243*, no. 11 (d).
30. UNGA, *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, 10 December 1948, <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/index.shtml>.
31. UNGA, *A/53/243*, no. 11(f).
32. UNGA, *A/53/370: Consolidated Report Containing a Draft Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace*, 2 September 1998,

<http://culture-of-peace.info/annexes/resA-53-370/coverpage.html>.

33. UNGA, A/53/370, no. 58.
34. The importance of peace education for the UN is also represented by the fact that the only branch of the organisation that grants academic degrees is UPEACE (The University for Peace), founded in 1980 by the General Assembly and headquartered in Costa Rica. See UPEACE staff, "About US," accessed 4 September 2016, <http://www.upeace.org/about/>.
35. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 9 (b).
36. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 9 (d).
37. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 9 (a).
38. This concept is unfolded further below at the beginning of the "The University, Ethical Investing, and Transformation" section.
39. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 11(d).
40. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 11(i).
41. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 11(c); no. 11(a); no. 11(b).
42. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 11 (j).
43. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 11 (h).
44. UNGA, A/53/370, no. 77.
45. UNGA, A/53/370, no. 77.
46. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 13.
47. UNGA, A/53/370, no. 80.
48. UNGA, A/53/370, no. 81.
49. UNGA, A/53/370, nos. 80-84.
50. Amster, *Peace Ecology*, 64-68.
51. Amster, *Peace Ecology*, 192.
52. See Garret Harding, "The Tragedy of the Commons," *Science* 162 (13 December 1968): 1243-46.
53. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 12.

54. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 12.
55. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 12.
56. See *Beijing Declaration and Programme for Action, Fourth World Conference on Women*, 15 September 1995, <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/pdf/BDPfA%20E.pdf>.
57. See Carol Woodhams and Ben Lupton, "Transformative and Emancipatory Potential of Intersectionality Research," *Gender in Management: An International Journal* 29, no. 5 (2014): 301-7.
58. Heather Eaton, *Introducing Ecofeminist Theologies* (London: T & T Clark, 2005), 114.
59. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 15.
60. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 15. This section of the resolution is discussed more fully below in this paper under the "Multifaceted Freedom of Expression" heading.
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62. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 15.
63. See UNGA, *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, no. 19.
64. UNGA, A/53/370, no. 92.
65. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 14.
66. UNGA, A/53/243, no. 14.
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  112. McKay, "Aboriginal Perspective," 521.
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  115. Berry, *The Dream of the Earth*, 206.

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118. See Hrynkow and O'Hara, "Earth Matters."
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121. Berry, "The University and its Response."
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