Motion To Call For Western To Incorporate Human Rights Into Their Investment Policy

Mover: Dylan Thompson

Seconder:

Preface:

Currently, Western's Responsible Investing framework references Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles but does not sufficiently address human rights considerations. This motion proposes that the SSSC calls for the integration of human rights considerations into Western University's Responsible Investing policy.

Whereas, Western University became a signatory to the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI) on December 19, 2023, under which Principle 1 states: "We (the signatory) will incorporate Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG) issues into investment analysis and decision-making processes."

Whereas, on May 2nd, 2024, the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights presented a report "urging investors to integrate human rights considerations into their environmental, social, and governance (ESG) and sustainability approaches, to align them with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights."

Whereas, on December 4, 2024, Western University's Student Council (USC), on January 30, 2025, the Western Universities' Society of Graduate Students (SOGS), on May 22, 2025, Western University's Faculty Association (UWOFA) and on October 7th 2025 CUPE2316, each passed motions urging Western University to implement human rights considerations into its responsible investing policy

Whereas, this motion is not in association with or affiliated with any political organization or movement and is made independently

Be it resolved, That the SSSC formally advocates that Western University incorporate human rights considerations into its Investment and Responsible Investing Policy

Be it further resolved, That the SSSC supports the proposed Senate recommendation to the Board of Governors to establish a Special President's Committee on Ethical and Human Rights Aligned Responsible Investing, composed in a manner that is representative of the Western community which includes students, faculty, staff, and community members, which is mandated to Develop and oversee the implementation of the aforementioned policy amendments in a sustainable manner.