

Send to feedback@vancity.com

Subject Line: Important Feedback: Make Vancity More Attractive to Students

Dear Vancity,

My name is [REDACTED] and I am a student at [REDACTED]. I was disappointed to learn that the big Canadian banks invest customers' money in fossil fuels and war crimes. **So, I am planning on opening an account moving my money to Vancity.** However, in discussing this with my peers, I have identified a **couple reasons why some students would like to switch to Vancity but decide not to:**

1. The big Canadian banks offer free e-transfers on student accounts. I noticed **Vancity charges \$0.90 per e-transfer**. Students often use e-transfers to split costs with friends amidst affordability issues in university. The \$0.90 fee is often a proportionately large amount relative to the total purchase and hinders students from joining Vancity.
2. The big Canadian banks allow customers to **use debit cards for online transactions**. This is essential because students under 19 years-old are unable to get a credit card. Most students are under 19 when they enter university, and they need to acquire a debit card for several online purchases. Therefore, many students end up opening accounts with the big banks instead of Vancity, and they are less likely to switch after they have already chosen a bank.

I hope Vancity will consider **removing the e-transfer fee and creating a Visa debit (that allows online purchases)** to make its account more attractive to students.

In addition, I am proud that Vancity made the choice years ago to not invest in fossil fuels or weapons companies, and I know more people are joining Vancity for those reasons. However, divestment shouldn't stop there. There are hundreds of other companies that engage in human rights violations. I would like to know if Vancity invests in any of the companies on the [American Friends Services Committee database](#). I also encourage Vancity to consider adopting Adasina Capital's [Social Justice Investment Screen](#). **Expanding divestment** to these areas will position Vancity as a world leader in ethical investing.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]