



Open Letter to the University of Toronto on Divestment

August 20, 2024

President Meric Gertler
President of the University of Toronto

Dear President Gertler,

I write to formally notify you of the following motion put forward and adopted by members of USW Local 1998 at its July general membership meeting. The motion calls on the University to disclose all its investments, divest from all investments that contribute to the State of Israel's ongoing assault on Gaza and the illegal settlement of Palestine, and terminate its partnerships with academic institutions in Israel that operate in illegal settlements in Palestine or that support the assault on Gaza.

The motion passed at the July 18, 2024, General Membership Meeting of United Steelworkers Local 1998 reads:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT USW Local 1998 calls upon the University of Toronto to:

- 1. disclose all investments held in endowments, short-term working capital assets, and other financial holdings of the University;*
- 2. divest the University's endowment, capital assets, and other financial holdings from all direct and indirect investments that contribute to the State of Israel's ongoing assault on Gaza and the occupation and illegal settlement of Palestine;*
- 3. terminate all partnerships with academic institutions in the State of Israel that operate in illegal settlements in Palestine or support or sustain the State of Israel's ongoing assault on Gaza.*

I trust that the University will consider taking the actions necessary to implement the steps called for by the motion. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Ankenman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John Ankenman
President, USW Local 1998