



CANADIAN  
UNITARIAN  
COUNCIL

CONSEIL  
UNITARIEN  
DU CANADA

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## **CUC Study Resolution on Socially Responsible Investing**

Assembled at its Annual General Meeting in Saint John, New Brunswick, May 19th to 22nd, 2006

1. **Whereas** the Canadian Unitarian Council adopted a Socially Responsible Investment Policy at its Annual Meeting in Thunder Bay in 1997, and
2. **Whereas** it was further resolved by the CUC to recommend to the Board of Trustees that in investing the funds of the CUC they make all reasonable efforts to avoid the holding of securities by corporations and agencies involved in nuclear power, military weapons, tobacco, gambling, human rights violations or non-sustainable environmental practices, and
3. **Whereas** it was also resolved to make arrangements to inform the membership of our societies regarding such investment practices and that our denomination be in attendance at shareholder meeting and vote in a knowledgeable manner, and
4. **Whereas** the increasing globalization of economic interrelationships and activities of businesses based in Canada and abroad creates new potential for both beneficial and harmful impacts; there is a more significant role now than ever for an active Socially Responsible Investment Policy, and
5. **Whereas** the said Policy needs to be more effectively supported at the level of local congregations and made know to individual Unitarians to be effective, and
6. **Whereas** the implementation of the Socially Responsible Investment Policy could only benefit from improved liaison with other faiths and like-minded citizens' organizations, and Whereas the recently achieved autonomy of the CUC from the UUA has led to a significant increase in the CUC investment portfolio and created a need to further develop our socially responsible investment practices, and
7. **Whereas** an effective and committed Socially Responsible Investment Policy is supported by the seventh Principle (Respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are all a part); the second Principle (Justice, equity and compassion in human relations) and the third Principle (Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations), therefore

### **Therefore be it resolved that:**

This AGM direct the formation of a Study Group to begin a two-year Study, which shall be in the format of an action study, to propose and develop Socially Responsible Investment Practices



among the member congregations and in the community contexts where congregations and individual members live and interact.

The membership of which Study Group may be augmented or altered by majority decision of said Study Group in consultation with the Board. The purposes of which Study, in which all congregations are invited to participate, are:

1. to develop a Canadian network of Unitarians and like-minded groups and individuals to enable effective Socially Responsible Investment practices,
2. to seek the support and expertise of other faith groups and like-minded groups and individuals with valuable experience in Socially Responsible Investing in Canada the USA and further abroad,
3. to raise awareness in our congregations and among our members and friends of the ways and means in which Unitarians and those who support us can more effectively witness to the principles of our faith through dialogue with corporate leaders, the voting of our proxies as responsible shareholders, the presentation and support of shareholder initiatives at shareholder meetings, the convening of public events and the distribution of media communications,
4. to engage member congregations in the development of policies and actions that will strengthen the practices Socially Responsible Investing as an integral part of denominational wealth management and as an effective form of denominational witness and interaction with our communities for the good of all, and
5. to propose a resolution at the CUC AGM in 2008 that will establish a monitoring group to implement and recommend actions resulting from this the Study

**Passed by delegates at the Annual General Meeting, 2006  
Canadian Unitarian Council**