

**ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN DEANS OF EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES DOYENS ET DOYENNES D'ÉDUCATION**

Québec City **STATEMENT of COMMITMENT** on the
**CLIMATE EMERGENCY &
ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS**

*We recognize that every Faculty, College, School
and Department of Education and the Universities
exist within the lands of Indigenous Peoples*

We, Deans, Directors, and Chairs of Education from all regions of Canada are deeply concerned about the climate emergency and environmental crisis. Local, regional, and global air and water pollution; extractive technologies; accumulation and distribution of toxic wastes; destruction and depletion of forests, soil, and water threaten the survival of the planet, the integrity of the earth and its biodiversity, the security of nations, Indigenous peoples, and future generations. These environmental changes are caused by inequitable and unsustainable production and consumption patterns that aggravate poverty in many regions of the world.

We believe that urgent actions are needed to address these fundamental problems and reverse the trends. We acknowledge the work undertaken by the world in creating the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, with associated goals and indicators. Stabilization of human population, adoption of environmentally sound industrial and agricultural technologies, reforestation, and ecological restoration are crucial elements in creating an equitable and sustainable future in harmony with nature.



We recognize that our actions as Faculties, Colleges, Schools, and Departments of Education are complicit in this critical trajectory. We have a responsibility and opportunity to make a difference.

We recognize the power of education to transform practice. Faculties, Colleges, Schools, and Departments of Education have a major role in the education, research, policy formation, and information exchange necessary to make these goals possible. This is a social and an ethical responsibility. We must act.

WE, THEREFORE, MAKE THE FOLLOWING COMMITMENTS:

- We commit to processes of relationship building and engagement with the local communities to which we belong, beginning with Indigenous peoples.
- We commit to acting in ways that add to the equitable and sustainable future of the planet.
- Within our own Faculties, Colleges, Schools, Departments, and wider universities, we commit to reducing our environmental impact.
- We commit to supporting each other within ACDE to transform our practices in ways that add to the equitable and sustainable future of the planet, through reporting and sharing challenges and good practices.

By engaging in these actions, we recognize we are making a difference now and in the future. As we make these commitments, we are moving towards the creation of an Accord for Education for a Sustainable Future, which will be a living accord among Canada's Deans, Directors, and Chairs of Education.

This Commitment has been influenced by The Talloires Declaration – La déclaration Talloires (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Talloires_Declaration).

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