

## Appendix A: Survey

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### **First year students' experience with respect to sustainability at McGill University REB#: 177-1015**

You have been selected to participate in a research study on first year students' experience with respect to sustainability. I am conducting a short and anonymous survey to find out about your understanding, attitudes and behaviours relating to sustainability on campus. The survey should take no more than 15 minutes to complete.

Your participation in the survey is entirely voluntary and you may withdraw from completing the survey at any time. Your responses will be completely anonymous.

If you agree to participate, please answer the following questions to the best of your ability even if you feel your investment in, or knowledge of, sustainability is low. Please answer as frankly and honestly as you can. There are no wrong answers in this survey! Other than the consent and age inquiries, you do not have to answer any questions that you feel uncomfortable with and can simply move on to the next question.

If you have questions or concerns about the project, please contact the research supervisor Dr. Julia Freeman at [julia.freeman@mcgill.ca](mailto:julia.freeman@mcgill.ca) or at (514) 398-6997.

If you would like more information on the rights of research participants, please contact Ms. Lynda McNeil with Research Ethics Board (REB) Office at (514) 398-6831 or [lynda.mcneil@mcgill.ca](mailto:lynda.mcneil@mcgill.ca).

By completing this survey, you consent that you are 18 years of age or older, have read the above information, and voluntarily agree to participate in the research.

Thank you for your collaboration!

Please select your choice below. You may print a copy of this consent form for your records. Clicking on the "Agree" button indicates that:

- You have read the above information
- You voluntarily agree to participate
- You are 18 years of age or older

Agree

Disagree

**SECTION A – DEMOGRAPHICS**

1. What is your year in school?

- U0     U1     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

2. What Faculty are you in?

- Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
- Faculty of Arts
- Faculty of Arts and Science
- Faculty of Dentistry
- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Engineering
- Faculty of Law
- (Desautels) Faculty of Management
- Faculty of Medicine
- Faculty of Music
- Faculty of Religious Studies
- Faculty of Science
- I don't know
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

3. What is your Department (i.e. major program of study)? Please write undecided if you have not yet declared a major. \_\_\_\_\_

4. What do you identify as:

- Male                       Female                       Other

5. Where is the primary place you grew up? *Please state the city and the country.*

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6. Would you say that area was...

- Suburban
- Urban (metropolis area)
- Rural/ small town (countryside)
- Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

7. What is your background? *Please choose all that apply.*

Aboriginal or Indigenous, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

African, please specify the country: \_\_\_\_\_



<b>Economic</b> reasons i.e. tuition cost, scholarships, financial aid, etc.							
<b>Practical</b> reasons i.e. proximity of the university to home, availability of residences on campus							
<b>Academic</b> reasons i.e. teaching/education methods, position of university in international ranking, study abroad, internship and research opportunities, etc.							
<b>Personal</b> reasons i.e. the reputation of the university, family ties, athletics, attractiveness of location, etc.							
<b>Cultural</b> reasons i.e. multiculturalist and diversity of student body, city of Montreal (arts, music, food), opportunity to learn French/English etc.							
<b>McGill's commitment to sustainability</b> i.e. purpose of working together toward a shared vision for a flourishing future in a manner that integrates social, economic and environmental dimensions							

12. For respondents who put “McGill’s commitment to sustainability” as “somewhat important or “very important”, could you please elaborate/ explain what about sustainability at McGill interested you? *I.e. what from McGill specifically attracted you, how did you find out about it, etc.?*

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**SECTION D – GENERAL ATTITUDES**

13. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements. *Please be honest.*

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Rather not say
<b>Environmental aspects of Sustainability</b>							
We, as a society, need to reduce fossil fuel use in order to respond to the danger of climate change							

McGill needs to do more to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions of its activities								
I am willing to make sacrifices in terms of my consumer goods in order to help resolve environmental problems								
<b>Social aspects of Sustainability</b>								
The impacts of climate change will be unjustly distributed among the most vulnerable populations								
McGill needs to be committed to diversity and equity in its employment practices.								
I avoid certain companies because I do not agree with their labour conditions								
<b>Economic aspects of Sustainability</b>								
The world's wealthiest (though not necessarily the highest polluters) need to pay for the cost climate adaptation								
McGill should purchase its goods and services with sustainability in mind.								
I am willing to pay more to support a locally made product								

14. How would you best describe your attitude towards sustainability? *Please select only one response.*

- I think it is a waste of time and effort
- I am not really interested in it
- It is OK if others want to do it
- I think it is a good thing
- I am interested but I'm no eco-freak
- I am a passionate advocate

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**SECTION E – BEHAVIOURS AND RESPONSE TO SUSTAINABLE INITIATIVES**

15. Since arriving at McGill, of the following activities, please indicate the extent to which you engage in the following activities by assigning the appropriate number from the scale below. *Please be honest.*

- |       |        |           |         |        |
|-------|--------|-----------|---------|--------|
| 1     | 2      | 3         | 4       | 5      |
| Never | Rarely | Sometimes | Usually | Always |

- \_\_\_ Recycle paper, glass or plastic bottles in residence or on campus
- \_\_\_ Compost in residence dining halls
- \_\_\_ Consumer beverages in a reusable bottle or cup
- \_\_\_ Use reusable bags when shopping
- \_\_\_ Printing notes or readings double sided

- \_\_\_ Buy local products
- \_\_\_ Volunteer

16. Were you aware McGill has a sustainability strategy?

- Yes
- No

17. Are you interested in getting involved with sustainability initiatives at McGill (e.g. projects to make the campus more sustainable, applied research on sustainability, etc.)

- Very interested
- Interested
- Somewhat interested
- Not interested
- I don't know

18. Which of the following sustainability strategies (as outlined by the McGill Sustainability Office) would you most like to get involved with at McGill?

- Research i.e. applied student research, research centers, institutes and courses
- Education i.e. faculties & schools, courses, etc.
- Connectivity i.e. community engagement, health & belonging, sustainability partnerships, etc.
- Operations i.e. waste & recycling, buildings & utilities, transportation, food & dining, etc.
- Governance & Administration i.e. policies, commitments, reports, etc.

Are there any other comments you would like to make regarding sustainability on campus?

Thank you for your participation! ☺