

# YUFA workshop on faculty associations and climate justice

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Jody Berland, James Clark and Ricardo Grinspun

# Why should faculty associations care about climate justice?

- ▶ Civil society action, bottom-up approaches, crucial when institutionalized, top-down approaches fail (Ont., Can. glob)
- ▶ Individual members care deeply about climate change (CC), but don't see faculty association (FA) as conduit for that action
- ▶ CC aggravates, rather than supplants, existing social, equity and economic struggles
- ▶ Climate change: a central workplace issue in years to come; critical role for FA. Universities massive workplaces with multiple impacts on CC (discussed next)
- ▶ Enhancing relevance of FA for members and the community; trailblazing trade unionism; institutional leadership
- ▶ Join students and younger generation in the struggle of their lifetime; take responsibility for their future

# How do universities contribute to climate change causes and solutions

- ▶ Students leading the way on CC; need to catch up
- ▶ Teaching (climate justice lens to teaching and learning -- natural sciences, engineering, social science, humanities, fine arts -- turn focus on climate justice solutions; tools for younger generation)
- ▶ Research (conference travel; academic networks on CC; innovation and climate solutions - pure science and societal context)
- ▶ Operations and infrastructure (energy generation and use; build and maintain buildings; design and use space) and transportation (get to and from campus; get around campus)
- ▶ Food (what food is available; where does it come from; how is it produced; grown on campus)

# How do universities contribute to climate change causes and solutions (cont'd)

- ▶ Investment (fossil fuels, finance, banking; contribute to CC)
- ▶ Employment (valuing service and care economy -- "low-carbon" jobs; decent wages, good working conditions)
- ▶ Procurement (goods and services procured off-campus, contribute to CC or climate justice solutions)
- ▶ Societal leadership (play leading role in post-secondary sector; join CC coalitions; influences government policy)
- ▶ Reparations (account for historical contribution to carbon emissions and CC; strategy to offset)
- ▶ Equity (to be discussed in the next section: how do equity concerns inform approaches to climate justice)