

Solidarity Statement for Wet'suwet'en

The Fine Arts Student Alliance (FASA) would like to begin our solidarity statement by acknowledging that Concordia University is located on unceded Indigenous lands and waters. We recognize the rightful custodians of the territory on which we gather as the Kanien'kehá:ka Nation.

As an organization whose members include settlers, those who have been forcibly displaced to this land and indigenous people to Turtle Island, FASA is committed to taking any and all necessary steps towards decolonisation, and reparations and justice for indigenous, First Nations, Inuit and Métis people. For this reason we are deeply concerned over the events taking place on Wet'suwet'en Territory. The sovereignty of the Wet'suwet'en people has been brazenly disregarded in a colluded effort between the British Columbia Provincial Government, the Canadian Federal Government, and the private sector in order to build the Coastal GasLink pipeline.

We are disturbed by the deployment of RCMP tactical squads using violence in an attempt to displace non-violent land defenders. This is in no way a departure from historical actions - in fact, it is very much in keeping with a long-standing and ongoing propensity of Canada to use violence to establish and maintain its occupation of indigenous land. We are equally disturbed by the threats directed at land defenders by settlers, which include but are not limited to bomb and death threats. The public and private sectors's disregard for the ecological state of these unceded lands is directly tied to the anti-indigenous racism prevalent in Canada.

With that said, FASA wishes to express its unconditional solidarity with the land defenders at Unis'tot'en camp in their continued resistance against colonization, as well as demonstrators at the Kahnawake railroad barricade. FASA will look to provide support to the resistance in any possible way, and encourages all members of the Concordia community to follow suit.

In solidarity,
The Fine Arts Student Alliance

