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## U of T News

The University of Toronto and more than a dozen Canadian universities have signed a landmark charter that aims to tackle climate change through a commitment to responsible investing practices.

The <u>"Investing to Address Climate Change</u>" charter was initiated by the University of Toronto and McGill University. It calls call on universities to, among other things: incorporate environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors into investment practices; regularly measure the carbon footprints of investment portfolios and set meaningful targets to reduce them over time; and engage with companies to encourage them to reduce emissions.

Such measures have already been adopted by the University of Toronto Asset Management Corp. (UTAM), which manages about \$10-billion in pension, endowment and other funds on behalf of the university. In fact, UTAM said earlier this year that <u>it plans to reduce the carbon footprint of the endowment and pension investment portfolios by at least 40 per cent by 2030.</u>

"Climate change is one of the most urgent challenges facing our world, so it is absolutely vital that Canada's universities work together to address it – and responsible investing practices like those adopted by UTAM are one way to make an impact," said U of T President Meric Gertler.

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