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## Consultation workshop to develop a new MSSSI research theme 'Cleantech: technologies for sustainability'

Are you a McGill faculty member interested the **technical and social aspects of developing technologies for sustainability (cleantech)**? Can you help develop the new MSSSI research theme on this subject? If so, please join us for a consultation workshop on November 5<sup>th</sup>. As well as identifying research areas, the workshop will provide experience in a technique used to generate ideas and discussion in the research and teaching environment.

### Theme description

Recognising the urgent need to replace non-sustainable processes and technologies with more benign alternatives - an essential element of global strategies to shift the world toward a more sustainable trajectory - and acknowledging McGill's solid expertise in the various disciplines required for successful development and innovation of these technologies, the MSSSI's fourth theme will focus on technologies for sustainability, or 'cleantech'.

Cleantech, in the MSSSI sense, encompasses the introduction or replacement of existing processes and technologies with those that are intrinsically less or non-environmentally problematic and the social, policy and economic adjustments associated with these changes. Thus, developing a new technology using cleantech principles might include an evaluation of its environmental impact from fabrication to disposal; the need for new or updated policies and laws; its availability to different sectors of society; potential market uptake; and the social and economic impact of displacing existing technologies. **Cleantech is therefore not just a technological challenge but one that requires the input of experts in law, social sciences and humanities.**

### The consultation process

Program development for the cleantech theme will start with a 3-h consultation workshop. Its aim is to identify key research areas that might be addressed by the theme. Following a review of the consultation outcomes by the MSSSI Executive and Advisory Committees, selected scholars will be invited develop the material into a robust and inclusive research program. It is anticipated that this process will be complete by the end of the fall 2018 semester.

All McGill faculty are welcome to attend the consultation and are requested to register through the link below.

<https://mcgill.ca/mssi/consultation-workshop-mssi-cleantech-technologies-sustainability-research-theme>