

Appendix B: List of Other Social Procurement Initiatives

The City of Vancouver recently announced a type of pre-qualification process for non-profits, social enterprises, and equity-seeking groups, where they identify themselves to the City and can then be considered for future procurement needs. Vancouver also requires suppliers to confirm they adhere to a specific code of conduct relating to sustainability.

The **Province of British Columbia** has begun to announce plans for making procurement easier for local and small to mid-sized contractors, and has produced frameworks as of January 2019 for social procurement use, for up to 10% of a contract's value determination or scope for contracts for services only less than \$75,000. It also encourages direct-awards under \$75,000 to social enterprises, that is, businesses which provide employment to specific equity-seeking groups. As an example, it recently conducted a public procurement for WorkBC services which gave preference to service providers who hired or planned to hire workers or contractors who formerly collected employment and social assistance. The CCSPI intends to consider these guidelines as part of their ongoing community consultation work.

The **Municipal Collaboration for Sustainable Procurement**, a network of 20 Canadian municipalities, colleges, and universities offering a peer-based forum to share best practices and technical expertise in sustainable procurement, recently published an *Annual Report on the State of Sustainable Public Procurement in Canada* and offers a membership to an organization such as the CRD for \$4,000 per annum.

The **City of Toronto** has a social procurement program, aiming to address economic disadvantage, discrimination, and barriers to equal opportunity, while establishing an effective balance between accountability, transparency and efficiency. It applies to most competitive purchases greater than \$3,000.

The **Government of Canada** has undertaken a social procurement pilot project for catering services, an area which commonly has a significant number of under-represented groups and social enterprises associated with it.

Imagine Canada, a Canadian non-profit, advocates for government to undertake social procurement and community benefit agreements in order to offset a foreseen potential deficit to Canadian charitable services, such as job-training, poverty services, wellness centres and the like due to fewer funds being available to provide services, assuming slower economic growth or recession. An offset to a lack of potential social funding could be found in the form of social and sustainable government procurement, which may ripple throughout the supply chain.

Canadian non-profit and CCSPI member **Buy Social Canada** operates a system of vendor and buyer certification for social procurement and community benefit and provides samples of Canadian social procurement materials on its website. It also provides a social enterprise list on its website.