

**Report to  
Rapport au:**

**Finance and Economic Development Committee  
Comité des finances et du développement économique  
2 February 2021 / 2 février 2021**

**and Council  
et au Conseil  
10 February 2021 / 10 février 2021**

**Submitted on January 8, 2021  
Soumis le 8 janvier 2021**

**Submitted by  
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**Ward: CITY WIDE / À L'ÉCHELLE DE LA VILLE      File Number: ACS2020-OCC-FED-0001**

**SUBJECT: MOTION – ECONOMIC RECOVERY EFFORTS**

**OBJET: MOTION – EFFORTS DE RELANCE ÉCONOMIQUE**

#### **REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

**That the Finance and Economic Development Committee recommend to Council:**

- 1. That as part of the City's COVID 19 economic recovery efforts, direct the Chief Procurement Officer to identify opportunities to include and encourage the City's use of social procurement projects and social enterprises in City procurement, in close collaboration with City Economic Development staff, staff from the Community and Social Services Department, City staff on the Human Needs Taskforce, Invest Ottawa, as**

well as community stakeholders, such as the United Way East Ontario and Community Foundation, Buy Social Canada and others as appropriate, with the intent of ensuring: citizen-led economic efforts, local social procurement capacity building and job creation initiatives are included in the City's overall recovery strategy;

2. That the Chief Procurement Officer report back to the Finance and Economic development Committee no later than the end of Q3 2021 with the actions taken to enhance social sustainability in City Procurement, and recommendations to incorporate social enterprises in future City procurement for Committee and Council's consideration; and
3. That social procurement opportunities be considered as part of projects initiated by other levels of government, where appropriate.

#### **RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT**

Que le Comité des finances et du développement économique recommande ce qui suit au Conseil :

1. Que, dans le cadre des efforts de relance économique de la Ville, le chef de l'approvisionnement trouve des occasions de promouvoir les projets d'approvisionnement social et le recours à des entreprises sociales, en étroite collaboration avec le personnel municipal responsable du développement économique, les employés de la Direction générale des services sociaux et communautaires et du Groupe de travail sur les besoins humains, Investir Ottawa et des intervenants communautaires comme Centraide de l'Est de l'Ontario, la Fondation communautaire et Buy Social Canada, au besoin, dans le but d'assurer que la stratégie de relance de la Ville comprenne des projets menés par des résidents, le renforcement de la capacité d'approvisionnement social local et des initiatives en matière de création d'emploi;
2. Que le chef de l'approvisionnement communique au Comité des finances et du développement économique, au plus tard au 3e trimestre de 2021, les mesures prises pour accroître la viabilité sociale dans les processus d'approvisionnement de la Ville et ses recommandations pour l'intégration des entreprises sociales aux futurs processus d'approvisionnement, aux fins d'examen par le Comité et le Conseil; et

3. **Que l'approvisionnement social soit envisagé dans le cadre des projets lancés par les autres ordres de gouvernement, s'il y a lieu.**

## **BACKGROUND**

At the Finance and Economic Development Committee meeting on December 1, 2020, Councillor L. Dudas introduced a Notice of Motion for consideration at the subsequent meeting. The purpose of the motion is to direct the Chief Procurement Officer to identify opportunities to include and encourage the City's use of social procurement projects and social enterprises in City procurement, and report back to Committee no later than Q3 2021.

## **DISCUSSION**

Vice-Chair L. Dudas provided the following Notice of Motion for Finance and Economic Development Committee's consideration:

**WHEREAS the City of Ottawa has implemented multiple economic recovery programs and initiatives in response to the impact of the pandemic on our city's economic wellbeing; and**

**WHEREAS the pandemic has resulted in an increase in unemployment rates to 8.2% in October, and placed additional strain on social service providers as they work to provide services to meet the rise in demand; and**

**WHEREAS increasing employment opportunities for disadvantaged groups who may face barriers in accessing the labour market can cause a ripple effect, benefiting the City's greater economic and social situation; and**

**WHEREAS the City of Ottawa's Supply Services is actively supporting the City's sustainability objectives by pursuing social procurement strategies and opportunities to build capacity in the social enterprise marketplace; and**

**WHEREAS jurisdictions such as Vancouver, Toronto and Calgary have successfully adopted Social Procurement Plans and provide useful examples for the City of Ottawa to consider when looking at its own procurement policies as both a municipality and local anchor purchasing institution; and**

**WHEREAS social procurement is not an added cost, but an innovative adaptation of current procurement processes to achieve broader city goals including local economic development, social impact, targeted employment or training, and environmental benefits; and**

**WHEREAS various Ottawa social sector organizations, such as United Way East Ontario and others, have been working closely with social innovators and social entrepreneurs for many years now and are well positioned to provide suggestions and advice on possible opportunities for City engagement to promote these social enterprises in the context of pandemic economic recovery initiatives;**

**THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that as part of the City's COVID 19 economic recovery efforts, the Chief Procurement Officer identify opportunities to include and encourage the City's use of social procurement projects and social enterprises in City procurement, in close collaboration with City Economic Development staff, staff from the Community and Social Services Department, City staff on the Human Needs Taskforce, Invest Ottawa, as well as community stakeholders, such as the United Way East Ontario and Community Foundation, Buy Social Canada and others as appropriate, with the intent of ensuring: citizen-led economic efforts, local social procurement capacity building and job creation initiatives are included in the City's overall recovery strategy; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Procurement Officer report back to the Finance and Economic development Committee no later than the end of Q3 2021 with the actions taken to enhance social sustainability in City Procurement, and recommendations to incorporate social enterprises in future City procurement for Committee and Council's consideration; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that social procurement opportunities be considered as part of projects initiated by other levels of government, where appropriate.**

#### **RURAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no rural implications associated with the report recommendation.

#### **CONSULTATION**

No specific consultation was conducted in respect of this report. The public was notified of this report in such that the Notice of Motion was raised at the public meeting of the Finance and Economic Development Committee on December 1, 2020, and was listed on the associated meeting Disposition, which was posted to Ottawa.ca. Subsequently, the meeting was advertised in community newspapers and on Ottawa.ca, and the agenda was published on Friday, January 22, 2021.

Public delegations may be received by the Finance and Economic Development Committee with respect to this report at its meeting of February 2, 2021.

### **COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR(S)**

Councillor L. Dudas raised this issue by way of Notice of Motion at the December 1, 2020 meeting of Finance and Economic Development Committee and can provide further context upon request.

### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE(S) COMMENTS**

Advisory committees were not consulted on this report.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Provided the City complies with all applicable federal and provincial laws, there are no legal impediments to adopting the report's recommendations.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

There are no risk management implications.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

### **ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS**

This report identifies opportunities to include and encourage the City's use of social procurement projects and local social enterprises in City procurement, with the intent of building job creation initiatives for community members including job seekers with disabilities.

### **TERM OF COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

This report supports the Term of Council Priorities of Economic Growth & Diversification and Thriving Communities.

### **DISPOSITION**

Pending Committee/Council approval, the Chief Procurement Officer will collaborate with other departments and report back to the Finance and Economic Development

Committee on a recovery strategy by Q3 2021 as outlined in the report recommendations.