

## 2017 – 12 Procurement for Community Benefit

### Mover: Aki Energy

**Whereas:** Social enterprises, cooperatives and non-profits use a business model to generate community benefits: employment, reduced poverty, environmental sustainability, reduced crime, improved health outcomes and more inclusive, strong and sustainable local economies.

**Whereas:** The Province of Manitoba, Manitoba municipalities and the broader public sector (including crown corporations, hospitals, academia and schools) purchase significant amounts of goods and services. Increasing purchases from social enterprises, cooperatives and non-profits will scale up their positive economic, social and environmental outcomes and generate a greater return on investment to government and society.

**Whereas:** One exceptional example is Manitoba Housing's use of social enterprise for the construction, maintenance and energy efficiency retrofits on Manitoba's affordable housing stock. This practice has created jobs for people with barriers and has begun to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty. At the same time, energy efficiency retrofits have decreased the financial burden of rising energy bills to social housing providers and low-income households, while enhancing the sustainability of our environment. There is an immediate, attainable and cost-effective opportunity to scale these outcomes.

**Whereas:** The broader public sector purchases significant amounts of food for its institutions and food services. This purchasing can be leveraged to strengthen the Manitoba economy while improving health outcomes and environmental sustainability. Social enterprises, cooperatives and non-profits produce goods and services that the broader public sector purchases, with the additional value of positive economic, social and environmental outcomes.

**Whereas:** There have been significant cost increases in government departments that can be mitigated by social enterprises, cooperatives and non-profits. For instance, the Department of Justice's annual budget was \$586 million in 2016/17, up from approximately \$300 million in 2006. In 2010, the economic burden of diabetes in Manitoba was estimated to be approximately \$86 million in direct costs and an additional \$412 million in indirect costs.

**Whereas:** The value of public procurement can be greatly enhanced by intentionally generating economic, social and environmental outcomes. This can be done using the following three tools, or a blend of each:

- Demanding social, environmental and economic outcomes when purchasing goods and services by including them in the bid evaluation process, through tools such as Community Benefit Clauses;
- Purchasing the social, environmental and economic outcomes directly as a program (for instance, funding a social enterprise as a training program that also provides goods and services to government);
- Creating set-asides in purchasing that can only be accessed by social enterprises, cooperatives and/or non-profits.

**Be It Resolved That: CCEDNet Manitoba urge the Province of Manitoba, City of Winnipeg, Manitoba municipalities and the broader public sector to implement procurement strategies that generate additional value through enhanced economic, social and environmental outcomes. These strategies should include tools for achieving the following objectives:**

- a. Increased purchasing from social enterprises, cooperatives and non-profits.**
- b. Increased purchasing of local and sustainable food.**
- c. Increased job and training opportunities for people facing barriers to employment.**