

Subject: Adoption of a Social Procurement Framework**APPROVALS:**

Ted Zlotnik, Director
Terry Hartley, Acting Executive Director
Marcel Ulliac, Chief Administrative Officer

Administrative Recommendations:

That the following be recommended to Council for approval:

THAT the Social Procurement framework be accepted as information; and

THAT Administration be directed to proceed with the pilot plan.

Summary:

On January 26, 2016, Council approved a request from Administration to develop a Social Procurement framework in consultation with stakeholders. Since that time Administration has created both a Social Procurement framework and a pilot plan for implementation.

Background:

The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo will become the first municipality in Alberta to adopt a Social Procurement framework. The next step is a pilot phase, during which the Municipality will engage with key stakeholders in a process to develop the region's collective capacity to leverage existing spend to achieve targeted and desirable community benefits.

In 2015, Supply Chain managed approximately 215 market requests which included 35 Tenders; 82 Request for Quotes (RFQs) and 98 Requests for Proposals (RFPs). Administration recommends utilizing the market solicitation mechanism as a tool to drive community value. Social Procurement represents a significant opportunity for the Municipality to take a more strategic approach to procurement. The pilot will explore and develop new ways to leverage the region's supply chain to achieve important and targeted community outcomes.

Tenders typically represent higher value infrastructure contracts, whereas RFQs are used primarily to acquire services such as landscaping and snow clearing. The RFP process is most often used to source professional consulting services, such as engineering requirements. In challenging economic times, governments, businesses, non-profit organizations and citizens must all work together to do more with less and to support those who are the most disadvantaged in our region. Eventually we want to develop a pre-approved list of preferred socially proactive suppliers.

The pilot project has been designed to achieve community benefits by building Social Procurement capacity across key sectors in the region.

Strategic Plan Linkages:

Pillar 1 – Building Responsible Government

Pillar 3 – Vibrant Economy

Attachments:

1. Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo Social Procurement Framework
2. Cumberland Community Benefit Agreement Example
3. Pilot Plan