

Consolidated Clause from Report No. 9 of the Administration Committee, as adopted by the Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on October 1, 2 and 3, 2002.

1a

**Sweatshop Abuses in the Garment Industry,  
Development of an Anti-Sweatshop  
Procurement Policy**

*(City Council on October 1, 2 and 3, 2002, amended this Clause by deleting from Recommendation No. (1) of the Administration Committee, the motion by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Shaw, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:*

***Moved by:***                      ***Councillor Miller***

***Seconded by:***                ***Councillor Shaw***

***“WHEREAS*** *the City of Toronto and its agencies, boards and commissions purchase a large volume of uniforms and other garments; and*

***WHEREAS*** *the City of Toronto has an interest in ensuring that these items are manufactured in appropriate conditions; and*

***WHEREAS*** *parts of the garment trade around the world are known to be involved in employing workers in conditions which violate their rights and which are commonly referred to as ‘sweat shops’; and*

***WHEREAS*** *it is in the interest of the City of Toronto to take a lead on this issue, to ensure workers are treated with respect and dignity and in accordance with their legal rights; and*

***WHEREAS*** *the garment trade in the City of Toronto is striving for a reputation of producing high quality garments and would benefit from the recognition of Toronto as a ‘no sweat’ city; and*

***WHEREAS*** *other municipalities, including the City of New York, have passed by-laws requiring purchases from ‘No Sweat’ workshops; and*

***WHEREAS*** *many clothing manufacturing businesses have expressed support for the City’s initiative;*

***NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the City of Toronto enact a purchasing policy requiring the purchase of garments, uniforms, or other apparel items from ‘No Sweat’ manufacturers, and the Director, Purchasing and Materials Management, be requested to consult with all interested parties in the development of the policy and to develop suitable definitions and policy recommendations for presentation to Council, through the Administration Committee, within current staffing resources.”)*

(City Council at its Special Meeting held on July 30, 31 and August 1, 2002, deferred consideration of this Clause to the next regular meeting of City Council scheduled to be held on October 1, 2002.)

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(City Council on June 18, 19 and 20, 2002, deferred consideration of this Clause to the next regular meeting of City Council scheduled to be held on July 16, 2002.)

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(City Council on May 21, 22 and 23, 2002, deferred consideration of this Clause to the next regular meeting of City Council scheduled to be held on June 18, 2002.)

(Clause No. 7 of Report No. 6 of the Administration Committee, entitled  
“Sweatshop Abuses in the Garment Industry, Development of An  
Anti-Sweatshop Procurement Policy.”)

**The Administration Committee recommends:**

- (1) **the adoption of the following motion by Councillor David Miller seconded by Councillor Sherene Shaw:**

**“WHEREAS the City of Toronto and its Agencies, Boards and Commissions purchases large volume of uniforms and other garments; and**

**WHEREAS the City of Toronto has an interest in ensuring that these items are manufactured in appropriate conditions; and**

**WHEREAS parts of the garment trade are known to be involved in employing workers, both inside Canada and out, in conditions which violates their rights and which are commonly referred to as “sweat shops”; and**

**WHEREAS it is in the interest of the City of Toronto in taking a lead on this issue to ensure workers both inside the City and outside are treated with respect and dignity and in accordance with their legal rights; and**

**WHEREAS other municipalities including the City of New York have passed bylaws requiring purchases from “No Sweat” workshops;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Toronto enact a purchasing policy requiring the purchase of garments, uniforms, or other apparel items from “No Sweat” manufacturers, and the Director of Purchasing and Materials Management be requested to consult with interested parties in the development of the policy.”;**

- (2) that the Chief Administrative Officer, the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer (Director of Purchasing and Materials Management) and the Manager, Fair Wage and Labour Trades Office:
  - (a) in the development of the Anti-Sweatshop Procurement Policy, be requested to include in the forthcoming report, staffing requirements for enforcement of the Policy; and**
  - (b) be requested to investigate the Anti-Sweatshop Procurement Policy adopted in New York City and measures they have taken to ensure compliance; and****
- (3) that all written submissions filed at the April 30, 2002, meeting of the Administration Committee respecting this matter be referred to the aforementioned City Officials for consideration in the development of the Anti-Sweatshop Procurement Policy.**

**The Administration Committee submits the following motion (April 30, 2002) from Councillor David Miller, Ward 13 - Parkdale-High Park:**

Moved by: Councillor David Miller

Seconded by: Councillor Sherene Shaw

“WHEREAS the City of Toronto and its agencies, boards and commissions purchases large volume of uniforms and other garments; and

WHEREAS the City of Toronto has an interest in ensuring that these items are manufactured in appropriate conditions; and

WHEREAS parts of the garment trade are known to be involved in employing workers, both inside Canada and out, in conditions which violates their rights and which are commonly referred to as “sweat shops”; and

WHEREAS it is in the interest of the City of Toronto in taking a lead on this issue to ensure workers both inside the City and outside are treated with respect and dignity and in accordance with their legal rights; and

WHEREAS other municipalities including the City of New York have passed bylaws requiring purchases from “No Sweat” workshops;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Toronto enact a purchasing policy requiring the purchase of garments, uniforms, or other apparel items from “No Sweat” manufacturers”, and the Director of Purchasing be requested to consult with interested parties in the development of the policy.”

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The Administration Committee reports, for the information of Council, having also had before it the following communications:

- (1) (December 5, 2001) from Ms. Tina Conlon, Canadian Programme Officer, Oxfam Canada, Ontario Region, advising that Oxfam Canada volunteers are working with local unions and community groups to make sure that tax dollars do not go to sweatshops; that the City of Toronto spends millions of dollars each year on uniforms for police, firefighters and other public employees and that much of this money may be going to companies using sweatshops subjecting workers to unacceptable conditions and poverty wages; that over the past two years over 30 municipalities in the United States have passed procurement resolutions calling on their governments to avoid purchasing uniforms made in sweatshops; that in March of 2001, the New York City Council overwhelmingly passed an anti-sweatshop procurement bill which provides a good model for Toronto; and requesting an opportunity to appear before the Administration Committee on January 17, 2002, respecting this issue;
- (2) (April 8, 2002) addressed to Councillor Lorenzo Berardinetti from Ms. Shelly Smith, requesting an opportunity to meet with Councillor Berardinetti to discuss the issue of making Toronto a “No Sweat” City; advising of the activities of a coalition of union, social justice, faith and student organizations working together to raise awareness of sweatshop issues; and attaching petitions from members of UNITE (Union of Needletrades and Industrial Trading Employees) who are concerned that the City tax dollars may be supporting sweatshops; and
- (3) (April 30, 2002) from the President, Toronto Civic Employees’ Union, Local 416, urging the Administration Committee to support the motion by Councillor David Miller and seconded by Councillor Sherene Shaw respecting the development of an Anti-Sweatshop Procurement Policy.

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The following persons appeared before the Administration Committee in connection with the foregoing matter:

- Ms. Tina Conlon, Oxfam Canada, Ontario Region;
- Ms. Alex Dagg, Union of Needletrade Industry and Textile Employees, and filed a written submission with respect thereto;

- Mr. John Cartwright, President, Toronto and York Region Labour Council;
- Mr. Goh, Iromoto, and filed a petition in regard thereto;
- Rabbi Lawrence Englander, Greater Toronto and Canadian Council for Reform Judaism, and filed a written submission from the Most Reverend T. E. Finlay, Archbishop of Toronto, with respect thereto;
- Reverend Ted McCollum, Anglican Diocese of Toronto, and filed a written submission from the Most Reverend T. E. Finlay, Archbishop of Toronto, with respect thereto;
- Mr. David Szollosy, on behalf of the Catholic Religious Teachers;
- Ms. Sharon MaLoney, General Counsel, Senior Vice President, Government Relations, Retail Council of Canada, and filed a copy of the Retail Council of Canada's Guidelines, and, a copy of the Purchasing Policy from the City of Halifax;
- Mr. Ken Amoroso, Membership Secretary, CUPE Local 79, and filed a written submission with respect thereto; and
- Mr. Greg Colton, International Association of Firefighters.

The following Members of Council appeared before the Administration Committee in connection with the foregoing matter:

- Councillor Joe Mihevc, St. Paul's; and
- Councillor Howard Moscoe, Eglinton-Lawrence.

*(City Council on May 21, 22 and 23, 2002, had before it, during consideration of the foregoing Clause, communications received from the following regarding sweatshop abuses in the garment industry:*

- (i) (May 6, 2002) from the Union of American Hebrew Congregations signed by representatives of the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism (CCRJ) and the Reform Rabbis of Greater Toronto;*
- (ii) (May 9, 2002) from Roxana Ng, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto;*
- (iii) (May 10, 2002) from The Reverend Ted McCollum, Chair of Community Ministries, Diocese of Toronto, Anglican Church of Canada;*
- (iv) (May 10, 2002) from The Most Reverend Terence Finlay, Archbishop, Anglican Diocese of Toronto; Sister Jean Leahy, Chair, Toronto Council, Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace; and Rabbi Lawrence Englander, Canadian Council for Reform Judaism;*

- (v) *(May 13, 2002) from Craig Bromell, President, Toronto Police Association;*
- (vi) *(May 14, 2002) from Tina Conlon, Canadian Program Officer, Oxfam Canada; Alex Dagg, Director UNITE Ontario Council; John Cartwright, President, Toronto and York Region Labour Council; Goh Iromoto, Student, Northern Secondary School; Rabbi Lawrence Englander, Canadian Council for Reform Judaism; Reverend Ted McCollum, Anglican Diocese of Toronto; David Szollosy, Catholic Religious Teachers; Ken Amoroso, Membership Secretary, CUPE Local 79; and Grey Colton, President, Toronto Professional Firefighters Association;*
- (vii) *(May 14, 2002) from Vivien Leong;*
- (viii) *(May 15, 2002) from Tullia Marcolongo, Director of Research and Communications, Union of Needletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees, CLC, AFL-CIO, forwarding a sample package of signed letters from 139 citizens living in the Greater Toronto Area, a copy of which is on file in the office of the City Clerk;*
- (ix) *(May 16, 2002) from Ken Foster, Canadian Director, Amalgamated Transit Union Canadian Council; and*
- (x) *(May 16, 2002) from Phil Turner, President, The Apparel Manufacturers Association of Ontario.)*

*(Having regard that City Council deferred consideration of this Clause to its next meeting scheduled to be held on June 18, 2002, the aforementioned communications will be resubmitted to Council.)*

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*(City Council on June 18, 19 and 20, 2002, had before it, during consideration of the foregoing Clause, communications received from the following regarding sweatshop abuses in the garment industry:*

- (i) *(May 6, 2002) from the Union of American Hebrew Congregations signed by representatives of the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism (CCRJ) and the Reform Rabbis of Greater Toronto;*
- (ii) *(May 9, 2002) from Roxana Ng, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto;*
- (iii) *(May 10, 2002) from The Reverend Ted McCollum, Chair of Community Ministries, Diocese of Toronto, Anglican Church of Canada;*
- (iv) *(May 10, 2002) from The Most Reverend Terence Finlay, Archbishop, Anglican Diocese of Toronto; Sister Jean Leahy, Chair, Toronto Council, Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace; and Rabbi Lawrence Englander, Canadian Council for Reform Judaism;*

- (v) *(May 13, 2002) from Craig Bromell, President, Toronto Police Association;*
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- (vii) *(May 14, 2002) from Vivien Leong;*
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- (ix) *(May 16, 2002) from Ken Foster, Canadian Director, Amalgamated Transit Union Canadian Council;*
- (x) *(May 16, 2002) from Phil Turner, President, The Apparel Manufacturers Association of Ontario;*
- (xi) *(June 6, 2002) from Maureen Huismans, President, Toronto Conference, The United Church of Canada;*
- (xii) *(June 6, 2002) from Andrew Rotenberg, The Promotional Specialists;*
- (xiii) *(June 6, 2002) from Hyla Hauer, Plain and Simple;*
- (xiv) *(June 12, 2002) from Chloe Gravelle, Sales Manager, Tri-Versa-Global Inc.;*
- (xv) *(June 12, 2002) from Lynda Yanz, Coordinator, Ethical Trading Action Group;*
- (xvi) *(May, 2002) from Muir Cap and Regalia Ltd.;*
- (xvii) *(May, 2002) from Lonix Hats Inc.;*
- (xviii) *(May, 2002) from Coats North America;*
- (xix) *(May, 2002) from Metro Sportswear Limited;*
- (xx) *(May 28, 2002) from Athavian Bamji, Plant Manager, Pillowtex Canada Inc.;*
- (xxi) *(May, 2002) from Lipson Shirtmakers; and*
- (xxii) *(June 10, 2002) from Gloria Chan, Coordinator, Homeworkers' Association – Unite Ontario Council.)*

*(Having regard that City Council deferred consideration of this Clause to its next regular meeting scheduled to be held on July 16, 2002, the aforementioned communications will be resubmitted to Council.)*

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*(City Council on July 30, 31 and August 1, 2002, had before it, during consideration of the foregoing Clause, a communication (July 29, 2002) from Councillor Miller, High Park-Parkdale, requesting deferral of Administration Committee Report No. 9, Clause No. 1.)*

*(City Council also had before it, during consideration of the foregoing Clause, the following communications regarding sweatshop abuses in the garment industry:*

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- (b) (May 9, 2002) from Roxana Ng, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto;*
- (c) (May 10, 2002) from The Reverend Ted McCollum, Chair of Community Ministries, Diocese of Toronto, Anglican Church of Canada;*
- (d) (May 10, 2002) from The Most Reverend Terence Finlay, Archbishop, Anglican Diocese of Toronto; Sister Jean Leahy, Chair, Toronto Council, Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace and Rabbi Lawrence Englander, Canadian Council for Reform Judaism;*
- (e) (May 13, 2002) from Craig Bromell, President, Toronto Police Association;*
- (f) (May 14, 2002) from Tina Conlon, Canadian Program Officer, Oxfam Canada; Alex Dagg, Director UNITE Ontario Council; John Cartwright, President, Toronto and York Region Labour Council; Goh Iromoto, Student, Northern Secondary School; Rabbi Lawrence Englander, Canadian Council for Reform Judaism; Reverend Ted McCollum, Anglican Diocese of Toronto; David Szollosy, Catholic Religious Teachers; Ken Amoroso, Membership Secretary, CUPE Local 79; and Grey Colton, President, Toronto Professional Firefighters Association;*
- (g) (May 14, 2002) from Vivien Leong;*
- (h) (May 15, 2002) from Tullia Marcolongo, Director of Research and Communications, Union of Needletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees, CLC, AFL-CIO;*
- (i) (May 16, 2002) from Ken Foster, Canadian Director, Amalgamated Transit Union Canadian Council;*
- (j) (May 16, 2002) from Phil Turner, President, Apparel Ontario;*



- (k) *(May 28, 2002) from Athavian Bamji, Plant Manager, Pillowtex Canada Inc.;*
- (l) *(May, 2002) from Muir Cap and Regalia Ltd.;*
- (m) *(May, 2002) from Lonix Hats Inc.;*
- (n) *(May, 2002) from Coats North America;*
- (o) *(May, 2002) from Metro Sportswear Limited;*
- (p) *(May, 2002) from Lipson Shirtmakers;*
- (q) *(June 6, 2002) from Maureen Huismans, President, Toronto Conference, The United Church of Canada;*
- (r) *(June 6, 2002) from Andrew Rotenberg, The Promotional Specialists;*
- (s) *(June 6, 2002) from Hyla Hauer, Plain and Simple;*
- (t) *(June 7, 2002) from Jeffrey I. Otis, President and Chief Executive Officer, Grand National;*
- (u) *(June 10, 2002) from Gloria Chan, Coordinator, Homeworkers' Association – Unite Ontario Council;*
- (v) *(June 12, 2002) from Chloe Gravelle, Sales Manager, Tri-Versa-Global Inc.;*
- (w) *(June 12, 2002) from Lynda Yanz, Coordinator, Ethical Trading Action Group;*
- (x) *(June 12, 2002) from Harry Glicksman, Mac Mor Weatherman; and*
- (y) *(June 13, 2002) from Carly Steinman, Social Action Co-ordinator and Rabbi Sharon L. Sobel, Executive Director, Union of American Hebrew Congregations.)*

*(Having regard that City Council deferred consideration of this Clause to its next regular meeting scheduled to be held on October 1, 2002, the aforementioned communications will be resubmitted to Council.)*

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