

**City Council****Notice of Motion**

MM17.13	ACTION			Ward:All
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**Approval to Receive Atkinson Foundation Grant to Advance Public Sector Social Procurement across Toronto - by Councillor Ana Bailão, seconded by Councillor Michael Thompson**

*\* Notice of this Motion has been given.  
\* This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

**Recommendations**

Councillor Ana Bailão, seconded by Councillor Michael Thompson, recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to enter into an agreement with the Atkinson Foundation to deliver a renewed Community of Practice for Public Sector Social Procurement in Toronto program and to receive \$211,470 in grant funding from the Atkinson Foundation to deliver the program.
2. City Council increase the 2016 Approved Operating Budget for Social Development, Finance and Administration by \$61,677 gross, \$0 net, and include the funding for the second year of \$149,793 gross, \$0 net in the 2017 Operating Budget Submission, with the possible extension of the program to be included in the 2018 Outlook, if required to complete the delivery of the program.
3. City Council increase the 2016 Approved Complement for Social Development, Finance and Administration by 1.0 temporary position for a two-year period with a possible extension to 2018 to complete the delivery of the program for the Community of Practice for Public Sector Social Procurement in Toronto if required.

**Summary**

Social procurement is the practice of leveraging social development outcomes from an institution's regular procurement activities. For example, an institution can make efforts to diversify its supply chain when procuring goods or services or create workforce development opportunities when investing in infrastructure.

In October 2014, the City of Toronto and the Atkinson Foundation convened a Community of Practice of eighteen (18) leading public sector institutions to explore the feasibility of adopting these and other social procurement practices. Together, these institutions – Metrolinx, eight Toronto-based colleges and universities, three provincial ministries, the City of Toronto,

Toronto Transit Commission, Toronto Community Housing Corporation, Toronto Public Library, the United Way of Toronto and York Region, and the Atkinson Foundation – represent an estimated collective procurement spend of over \$17 billion annually that could be leveraged to drive inclusive economic growth in Toronto.

After an 18-month learning process, the Community of Practice is now in a position to implement steps to advance the practice of social procurement in public sector institutions. The Atkinson Foundation has authorized grant funding in the amount of \$211,470 for the City of Toronto to manage this work. For the next two years, the Community of Practice will focus on innovative solutions to break down policy and institutional culture barriers so that public sector institutions can advance social procurement policies and practices.

Based on its experience, the City is viewed as a leader in the field of social procurement and the appropriate champion to convene and support other Toronto-based public sector institutions in adopting social procurement practices. In May 2013, City Council adopted the Toronto Social Procurement Framework and directed staff to investigate how to alleviate economic disadvantage by embedding supply chain diversity and workforce development in the City's procurement process. Since then, City staff have led nine (9) pilots in order to test and refine social procurement approaches to City purchasing. City staff will be reporting to Council for consideration a proposed City of Toronto Social Procurement Program in the second quarter of 2016. Social procurement is also one of the systemic change commitments within TO Prosperity: Toronto Poverty Reduction Strategy.

This Motion authorizes Social Development, Finance and Administration Division to receive the Atkinson grant and hire a project manager who will support the renewed Community of Practice for a period of two years. Should the cost of program delivery exceed the funding received from the Atkinson Foundation, Social Development, Finance and Administration will absorb these costs within the existing budget.

### **Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM17.13