



Toronto Community Benefits Network

RE: FWC2.1 FIFA World Cup 2026 Toronto: Revenue Opportunities to Support Hosting Obligations, Procurement Plan Revisions, and Social Procurement and Community Workforce Development Updates

November 4, 2024

The Toronto Community Benefits Network would like to recognize the leadership of Toronto City Council, Deputy Mayor Malik and Mayor Chow and the work of City staff and the FIFA Secretariat in the development of a FIFA World Cup 2026 Community Benefits Plan.

The updates and details outlined in the staff report are encouraging, as it sets out a clear plan for how the City will use its policy and programs tools like the Community Benefits Framework, the Social Procurement Policy and Fair Wage policy to prioritize quality jobs, inclusive local economic opportunities and business opportunities for Black, Indigenous and diverse owned businesses and social enterprises.

The TCBN would like to highlight the following three recommendations:

1. Prioritize quality jobs across all FIFA related contracts and work

We are encouraged by the City's emphasis on maximizing quality jobs as part of the FIFA Men's World Cup 2026. The City should advocate for job quality contracting measures for all FIFA-related work and activities. We know previous World Cup games have had reports and allegations of human rights and labour abuse. The City should be mindful of the potential exploitation and harm to workers if contracting measures, remedies and enforcement are not prioritized.

2. Promote community benefits opportunities publicly, ensure monitoring and public reporting of outcomes and impact

The Community Benefits Plan sets out ambitious goals and program, however, opportunities need to be made available in a public and transparent way. We encourage the City to develop a FIFA World Cup 2026 Community Benefits Plan webpage to ensure all information is publicly accessible, including outcomes and stories of impact, and to collaborate with community partners like the TCBN to support community outreach and promote opportunities locally. The TCBN, as a city wide network, has deep reach including in Toronto's neighbourhood improvement areas and has developed tools to support the dissemination of information.



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3. Use learnings from this process to enhance and strengthen City levers

For years, the TCBN has encouraged the City to review, enhance and strengthen its tools like the Social Procurement Program to ensure local communities benefit from City contracting and public works. The TCBN would like to ensure the upcoming 5 year review and recommendations for improvements includes learnings and best practices from the FIFA contracting process to improve, enhance and strengthen the City's Social Procurement Policy including stronger equitable workforce development requirements and scored evaluation criteria in project tenders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "R Powell", is positioned above the printed name.

Rosemarie Powell
Executive Director
Toronto Community Benefits Network