

Aldermen Ceci and Farrell

WHEREAS the purposes of a municipality are to provide good government, to develop safe and viable communities and to provide services, facilities or other things that, in the opinion of Council, are necessary or desirable for the municipality, in accordance with Section 3 of the Municipal Government Act;

AND WHEREAS environmentally and ethically unsustainable practices (including sweatshops and child labour) continue to spread throughout the global supply/purchase network;

AND WHEREAS such practices undermine international environmental sustainability initiatives and human rights standards and foster the abuse of workers in many sectors of the production and supply sector, including the apparel industry;

AND WHEREAS the spread of such negative practices may threaten the jobs and working conditions of manufacturing workers in The City of Calgary;

AND WHEREAS City procurement if done on the basis of best value only may support or encourage such negative practices as well as implicitly affirm a lack of support for the labour and environmental conditions enjoyed by manufacturing workers in Canada and other countries that adhere to international standards;

AND WHEREAS Council has adopted a Triple Bottom Line Policy that requires that all of its policies, programs and practices consider not just cost but potential impacts on environmental, social and economic conditions;

AND WHEREAS Council's environmental policy requires that The City comply with environmental legislation and encourage resource conservation and pollution avoidance;

AND WHEREAS residents of Calgary do not condone or tolerate exploitive child labour, forced labour, discrimination and/or abuse of workers in any way;

AND WHEREAS residents of Calgary expect The City of Calgary procurement policies to reflect their values and protect the rights of workers to the best of the City's abilities and to implement the Triple Bottom Line policy approach Council has adopted;

AND WHEREAS The City of Calgary establishes conditions and standards for the goods and services it purchases to verify that all goods and services are supplied in accordance with City policies and all applicable laws;

AND WHEREAS it is in the interest of The City of Calgary to purchase from suppliers who can provide quality goods produced under established international environmental and labour standards, or alternatively can provide quality goods that are certified as being fairly traded;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council affirm that a priority be assigned to the development by the Administration of a comprehensive proposed Sustainable Environmental and Ethical Procurement Policy for Council's review and approval before the end of the 2005 calendar year;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Council hereby declares its intention that the Administration work with the City's network of suppliers and the public including community-based non-governmental organizations (such as the 'Calgary No Sweat Coalition'), in the development of the aforesaid Sustainable Environmental and Ethical Procurement Policy and to ensure that items - including but not limited to garments, coffee and related items purchased by The City - are manufactured or produced in accordance with established international environmental standards and applicable codes of conduct regarding wages, working conditions, safety, forced labour and freedom of association as embodied in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and International Labour Organization Conventions;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that The City of Calgary Council direct City Administration to report to Council through a Standing Policy Committee prior to the end of 2004 on the policy development process and engagement strategy for the aforesaid Sustainable Environmental and Ethical Procurement Policy for City purchases of garments, coffee and related items. The report to include:

- The conditions and business practices that could apply to the purchase of goods and services for compliance with the policies
- Procedures under which a Sustainable Environmental and Ethical Procurement Policy could be implemented
- Mechanisms The City may use to verify suppliers are in compliance with established labour conventions or fair trade certifications
- Best procurement practices used or under consideration in other municipal jurisdictions in Canada.
- Estimated costs to implement this policy.