Working Towards an Inclusive Future
Social Procurement

At the University of Toronto

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SOCIAL PROCUREMENT STRATEGY MANAGER
November 2023
Agenda

• Social Procurement
• Diverse Suppliers
• Purchasing from Diverse Suppliers
• Demonstrating Benefits
• Inclusive Procurement Practices
• Testimonial, Jennifer Lee, Office of the VPP
• Portal Demo
• Questions
The goal is to advance equitable procurement opportunities for marginalized and underrepresented businesses, including those owned by Black, Indigenous people, 2SLGBTQIA+, people of colour, women, people with disabilities, youth, seniors, and new Canadians.

Through Social Procurement, U of T can leverage existing procurement activities to achieve positive Social Value Objectives that support EDI strategies and the university's strategic goals:

1. Foster local economic development and employment opportunities to support U of T and the surrounding community
2. Support the UofT Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action and Anti-Black Racism Taskforce
3. Promote social equity and sustainable community development to uplift and support areas within our community that need it the most
4. Incorporate socio-economic goals derived from environmental sustainability purchasing to contribute to a healthy community where people and the environment are intrinsically linked
5. Strengthen arts, heritage, and culture initiatives to enrich the campus and the broader community.
Social procurement is defined as leveraging purchasing power to benefit **social, environmental, and economic value** (including local economic development, employment opportunities, and vibrant and thriving neighborhoods).

*Image Source: Buy Social Canada*
Social Procurement - What & Who

Social procurement is about offering business opportunities to suppliers who have traditionally been underrepresented in the supply chain.

Diverse suppliers can be:

1. Social Enterprises
Revenue-generating, often non-profit organizations with a social impact mission, (e.g., re-investing profits back into the community, or employing at-risk youth or persons with disabilities).

2. Diverse/Equity-Deserving Suppliers
51% owned, equity-deserving suppliers managed, and controlled by the following groups.

3. Local Suppliers (GTA - 25 Municipalities)
Generally small businesses in the communities that can be supported to grow and increase their capacity, creating a ripple effect in the local economy that can increase local wealth and jobs.
How does Social Procurement Work?

- Level the playing field by adding diverse suppliers into the existing supplier pool
- All suppliers, diverse or not, are still subject to U of T’s Procurement Policy (no changes)
- **Diverse Supplier Portal**: Access to Approx. 4000 diverse suppliers

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<th>Under $10K</th>
<th>$10K - $50K</th>
<th>$50K – $100K</th>
<th>Open Competitive ($100K)</th>
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<td><strong>1 Quote required</strong></td>
<td>Purchases in this threshold can be sourced directly from a supplier without obtaining additional quotations</td>
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<td>Include at least one quote from a diverse supplier (if available) using the ITQ (Invitation to Quote) form</td>
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- **$10K - $50K**: 2 Quotes required. Include at least one quote from a diverse supplier (if available) using the ITQ (Invitation to Quote) form.
- **$50K – $100K**: 3 Quotes required. Include at least one quote from a diverse supplier (if available) using the ITQ (Invitation to Quote) form.
- **Open Competitive ($100K)**: Contact Procurement Services (Phase 2).
Benefits of Social Procurement

U of T spends millions of dollars annually. There is an opportunity for the university to explore the potential for its spending to support local employment, economic growth, and community benefits. U of T's spending can serve as a significant lever to generate positive local and community impacts.

### Internal Buyers

- Support social value outcomes and EDI values
- Expand engagement with a broader supplier pool
- Access a wider range of goods/services while maintaining quality, cost, and availability standards.

### Diversified Supply Chain

- Enriches the supplier pool to foster innovation
- Reduces the risk of supply chain disruptions
- Promotes greater competition.

### Thriving Communities

- Realize economic prosperity by creating jobs and fostering business growth
- Reinvest in the local economy to ignite cultural vibrancy.
Inclusive Procurement Practices

Divisions at U of T can leverage social procurement as a powerful tool to advance their Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) strategies by integrating EDI principles and objectives into every stage of the procurement process.

- Embrace social procurement aligned with EDI principles
- Drive social progress and community well-being
- Utilize social procurement as a tool for EDI strategy advancement
- Seamlessly integrate EDI principles across procurement stages.
Including EDI Principles Into the Procurement Process

To achieve this, divisions can take the following steps:

1. Actively seeking via the Diverse Supplier Portal and engaging businesses owned by underrepresented groups, encouraging their participation and empowerment through procurement initiatives

2. Creating inclusive supplier selection criteria using the Invitation to Quote form that consider EDI aspects, ensuring that diverse businesses have enhanced access to procurement opportunities

3. Fostering an environment that embraces and celebrates diversity, thereby cultivating a culture of inclusion within the procurement process by referring to the Social Procurement Webpage.
# Social Procurement

## Sector Landscape

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sectors</th>
<th>Consulting/H.R.</th>
<th>Education/Training</th>
<th>Energy/Environmental</th>
<th>Finance/Administration</th>
<th>Food/Beverage/Hospitality</th>
<th>Health/Wellness</th>
<th>Information Technology</th>
<th>Indigenous Culture</th>
<th>Manufacturing/Tech</th>
<th>Marketing/Advertising</th>
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Resources

- Webpage
- Diverse Supplier Portal
- Quick Reference Guide
- How to report on spend and transactions
- New Supplier Account Request
- For support, contact: social.procurement@utoronto.ca
- For program information, contact lisa.myre@utoronto.ca, Social Procurement Strategy Manager