

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Social Procurement

INITIATIVE

BCSPI: Principles of Membership

British Columbia Social Procurement Initiative is a multi-year initiative *by* local governments *for* local governments, with participation from other institutional purchasers and vendors/suppliers.

Mission

Improve the health of our communities and the strength of our economies by changing the culture of public sector procurement.

Purpose

BCSPI helps local governments, First Nations and institutional purchasers across British Columbia turn their procurement dollars into achievable and measurable community benefits.

BCSPI is a community-driven initiative that is governed by a Steering Committee comprised of local government members, with services delivered by contractors. BCSPI is not an independent entity but rather a community project and shared practice.

These Membership Principles aim to capture and communicate the spirit and intention of the initiative and outline key collaborative aspects that make this initiative a success.

Core Guiding Principle is 'Contribution'

Members are both receiving services as well as contributing to an innovative initiative and best practices of social procurement. The principles that underline a spirit of contribution are:

- Collectively working towards a best practice
- Sharing learning amongst service providers and members
- Measuring impact.

Member Contribution Practices

A commitment to best practice, shared learning and collective impact is demonstrated (whenever possible) through:

- Participation in steering committee meetings
- Engaging with service delivery team on social procurement policy development
- Engaging with service delivery team on initial RFX with social procurement criteria
- Informing BCSPI Coordinator when posting a social value RFX
- Engaging with the collaborative tools and processes that have been developed to help with Standardization and vendor outreach/engagement: i.e. RFI, vendor directory and impact measurement framework
- Striving towards implementing (and improving on) the best practices that the membership is Collectively creating
- Being open about lessons learned and respecting the confidentiality of individuals sharing these lessons learned
- Not sharing BCSPI-developed tools and resources with non-members, without prior written approval.

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Membership Benefits

BCSPI membership provides access to expert advice, tools and resources that can help organizations to implement social procurement best practices:

- Professional development and training
- Templates, resources and examples
- Library of past webinars
- Expert consultation and review
- Impact measurement and evaluation tools
- Communications and engagement resources
- Networking and community engagement
- Vendor outreach collateral and social value vendor listings.