

# Section X

## Part One

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### CLS and Social Responsibility

#### Purposeful Purchasing

The Community Living Society endeavours to promote and support suppliers that are committed to socially responsible business practices. We expect all our suppliers to actively commit to Disability Confidence and Environmentally Sustainable Practices.

Purchasers at CLS may include any employee of the CLS that is purchasing a good or service with CLS funds, on behalf of the CLS or on behalf of an individual supported by the CLS. Purchasing decisions are also made by the CLS Administrative Office employees, and by employees involved in specific community inclusion activities such as Pottery Works and Glass Works.

The CLS will take the following into account when making purchasing decisions:

- The supplier has corporate responsibility statements regarding community and environmental sustainability.
- The supplier's Human Resource policies and practices include workplace accommodations, targeted hiring, position description, performance evaluation, employee training and employee retention schemes that promote the inclusion of people with disabilities in the workforce.
- The supplier's purchasing/procurement policies and practices promote partnership with businesses owned and operated by people with disabilities and social enterprises and similarly require commitments regarding economic inclusion of people with disabilities.
- The supplier's advertising campaigns target and respect people with disabilities as valued consumers.
- The supplier's employee customer service training includes instruction and strategies for serving customers with disabilities well.

- The supplier's premises and facilities (office space, warehouses, parking lots, factories etc) are fully accessible to people with disabilities.
- The supplier's purchasing/procurement policies and practices promote environmental sustainability. Consideration shall be given to those products or services that:
  - Contain reused and reusable materials;
  - Contain materials manufactured without toxic chemicals;
  - Have minimal packaging;
  - Contain materials that biodegrade naturally and rapidly; and/  
or
  - Contain recycled and post-consumer content.
- The supplier is known to support ethical labour practices.

Whenever practical and financially appropriate the CLS, including its programs and services, will purchase from suppliers who meet the above criteria. Goods and services that are subsequently more expensive will still be purchased provided:

1. The difference in cost is not unreasonable ; and
2. It does not result in budgetary deficits or restraints.

While expenditures must continue to be fiscally responsible ones, they must also conform to this policy to the extent that it is possible to do so.

The intention is that this policy will not result in limitations to goods or services for persons supported, or to barriers in accessing the community, or adverse affects on the Community Living Society.