

EXPORT QUICK HITS: SOCIAL PROCUREMENT CERTIFICATION

Canadian Certifying Bodies

These organizations certify firms and connect them with the growing global demand from government and corporations for diverse suppliers.

WBE Canada - (wbecanada.org) is a non-profit organization that opens doors to new supply chains. It certifies firms that are at least 51 per cent owned, managed, and controlled by women and introduces them to opportunities with corporations. The organization also partners with governments, women's business centres, and other women in business organizations across Canada. WBE Canada provides a range of programs and services to assist women-owned businesses in accessing business opportunities with major corporations.

WEConnect International – Canada – (weconnectinternational.org) is a global network that connects women-owned businesses to qualified buyers around the world. They identify, educate, register, and certify women-owned businesses based outside of the U.S. that are at least 51 per cent owned, as well as managed and controlled by one or more women, and then connects them with multinational corporate buyers. WEConnect International is the exclusive global partner of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council in the U.S.

Canadian Aboriginal and Minority Supplier Council (CAMSC) – (camsc.ca) is dedicated to the economic empowerment of Aboriginal and minority-owned companies through the promotion and facilitation of supplier diversity, business development, and capacity building. Associated with the U.S. National Minority Supplier Development Council, CAMSC offers a number of programs to its corporate members and certified business members to promote and facilitate supplier diversity in Canada.

Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB) – (ccab.com) is a national non-profit organization offering knowledge, resources, and programs to both Aboriginal-owned member companies and Canadian businesses that foster economic opportunities for Aboriginal peoples and businesses across Canada. CCAB's Certified Aboriginal Business Program (CAB) certifies that Aboriginal businesses are at minimum 51 per cent owned by an Aboriginal person.

Canadian LGBT+ Chamber of Commerce (CGLCC) – (cglcc.ca) is a national, non-profit industry association. The CGLCC is committed to forming a broad-based coalition, representative of the various interests of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans-identified, Queer, Two-Spirited and Intersex-owned businesses, allied businesses, corporations, professionals, and students of business for the purpose of promoting economic growth and prosperity, through public and private sector advocacy and engagement.

Inclusive Workplace and Supply Council of Canada (IWSCC) - (iwsc.ca) is a Canadian non-profit created to support Canadian Armed Forces veterans and/or people with disabilities who own businesses. They provide certification so that these businesses can be officially recognized as Diverse Suppliers and work with corporate partners to increase the inclusivity of workplaces and procurement processes.

TERMS USED AROUND THE TOPIC OF SUPPLIER DIVERSITY:

Certification – Authenticates that a business is owned, managed, and controlled by a qualifying diverse group.

Diverse supplier: A business or non-profit organization that is at least 51 per cent owned by designated diverse groups, including those operated and controlled by women, Indigenous people and other visible minorities, those identifying as LGBTQ2+, or people with a disability. Visible minority suppliers are also known as minority business enterprises.

Diversity and inclusion: A practice in organizational management that supports an environment that values and respects individuals for their talents, skills, and abilities to the benefit of the collective.

Procurement: Buying of goods and services to enable and support the operation of an organization.

Supply chain: A group of linked organizations, starting with raw material suppliers and ending with final consumers. Supply chain organizations include farms, mines, manufacturers, retailers, service providers, government agencies, and non-profit entities. The objective of a sustainable supply chain is to provide customers with products and services at the lowest possible cost, while being mindful of implications for sustainability.

Tier 1 supplier: An organization's direct supplier; a person or business that provides goods and/or services to the focal organization. Also referred to as a first-tier supplier. For example, an office supply store might be a tier 1 supplier to your organization.

Tier 2 supplier: An organization's supplier's supplier; a person or business that provides goods and/or services to the tier 1 supplier. Also referred to as a second-tier supplier. From the example above, a paper manufacturer that sells paper to the office supply store, would be your tier 2 supplier.

B2B – “Business to Business” denotes trade between commercial organizations rather than between business and private customers.

B2C – “Business to Consumer” denotes the trade of goods/services between a business and consumers.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

A Guide to Social Procurement – An introduction to the ‘what, why, and how’ of social procurement.

Social Value Procurement Menu – This document is designed to help you implement and evaluate social value into your procurement process for goods or services.

Supplier Guide to Social Procurement – This document is designed to support social value suppliers to prepare for and effectively engage with purchasers.

Social Purchasing Partnerships – Buy Social Canada will work with your business to help you put social procurement into.