

Environmentally Responsible Procurement Policy

1.0 Policy Statement

The City has incorporated an Environmentally Responsible Procurement Policy into its operations. As such, whenever it is deemed practical and appropriate, environmental considerations should be included as part of the regular purchasing/acquisition process.

This policy is applicable to all divisions that create specifications and requisitions and all divisions that have purchasing authority. Each department within the City will ensure that relevant employees are familiar with this policy.

2.0 Background

The City recognizes that it consumes large amounts of material and produces large amounts of waste. This policy ensures that, as deemed practical and appropriate, environmental considerations are included with the City's regular purchasing/acquisition process.

3.0 Purpose

Where deemed to be practical and appropriate, this policy promotes the purchase or acquisition of goods, equipment, services, technologies, construction projects, etc. that are environmentally responsible.

Environmentally Responsible goods, equipment, services, technologies and otherwise have a less harmful effect on human health and/or the environment, compared to other competitive alternatives which serve the same purpose. Environmentally responsible attributes include: biodegradable, carcinogen-free, chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) free, compostable, durable (life cycle), energy efficient (energy star) ratings, etc., heavy metal free, low toxicity, created from rapidly renewable material, recyclable, recycled content, reduced greenhouse emissions, reduced packaging, refurbished, reusable, upgradable and water efficient.

4.0 Exemptions

Nothing in this policy:

- will prevent users from requiring recycled material content as a tender specification.
- will require the City to specify or purchase goods, equipment, services, technologies and otherwise which do not perform for their intended use or which are unavailable at a reasonable price/time frame.
- requires the City to specify or purchase environmentally responsible goods, equipment, services, technologies and otherwise where the City deems the same to be impractical or otherwise inappropriate in the circumstances.

This policy shall not be construed or applied to conflict with the Section 45 of the City of Mount Pearl Act, the 2018 Public Procurement Act or any other Regulation made pursuant thereto, or any other laws of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

5.0 Terms & Definitions

The updated Environmentally Responsible Purchasing Policy helps eliminate the City's use of materials which are harmful to the environment. Purchasing environmentally responsible products and services can be simple and easy. An environmentally responsible product is less harmful to the environment than the next best alternative. When writing tender specifications consider the following characteristics:

Reduce waste and make efficient use of resources.

Select products that are more energy, fuel, or water efficient, or that use less paper, ink, or other resources. Examples: energy-efficient lighting; photocopiers capable of double-sided photocopying; EnergyStar rated computers, photocopiers, refrigerators etc.

Products are reusable or contain reusable parts.

Select reusable products such as rechargeable batteries; laser printers with refillable toner cartridges, etc.

Products which are recyclable.

Choose products which can be recycled. Examples: paper; plastics; metals that can be sold for scrap; glass; etc.

Products which contain recycled materials.

Environmentally responsible products often contain post-consumer recycled content. Examples: paper products made from recycled post-consumer fibre; plastic created from recycled plastic; recycled asphalt; building materials with recycled content, etc.

Products with less polluting by-products and/or safety hazards during manufacture, use or disposal.

Select products that are non-hazardous and/or replace a hazardous product. Select low pollution products such as lawn mowers that reduce emissions; fuel efficient vehicles; paints with low amounts of VOC (volatile organic compounds); products with the least amount of wood

preservatives used where possible; CFC, HCFC or Halon free products, etc.

Products with a long service-life and/or can be economically and effectively repaired or upgraded.

Choose products which are durable. It is important that suppliers be asked to provide the environmental specifications of the products they are offering.

6.0 References


<http://www.snh.org.uk/pdfs/greening/Annual%20Greening%20Report%202004-05.pdf>

<http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/BuyRecycled/StateAgency/Buying.htm>

www.watoxics.org

<http://www.seattle.gov/sustainablebuilding/greenhome.htm>

7.0 Approvals



Steve Kent, Chief Administrative Officer

May 30, 2019
Date