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City of Saskatoon Procurement Policy

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Jeff Jorgenson
Acting City Manager
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Dear Jeff,

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the City of Saskatoon's new procurement policy. We appreciate the earnest and proactive consultation that the City has undertaken on this file and many others, which is very encouraging as both of our organizations continue to work for the betterment of the city.

We would like to re-emphasize our commentary regarding the specifics of the new procurement policy, and ultimately the new procurement guide. We strongly believe that the City should closely mirror the work already completed by Priority Saskatchewan, whose procurement guide is already in alignment with the city, province, and country's trade priorities. Particularly, we would like to emphasize the concept of "best value" as a better policy than "lowest price" which will allow the City to use discretion to award contracts to best meet the public interest in the success of the project. Further to this, it is essential that there is a common understanding of the concept of best value among City procurement staff, which may be best served through a single, consolidated procurement office (as opposed to procurement-by-department).

As we move forward on this file, we encourage the City to engage in consultation on a continuous basis. This extends to not only ourselves at the NSBA, but also to officials at Priority Saskatchewan who have a vested interest in seeing standardized procurement practices across the province. We are happy to arrange a meeting or communications between Priority Saskatchewan and the City of Saskatoon at a time of your convenience.

Sincerely,

Keith Moen
Executive Director



SASKATOON'S BUSINESS ASSOCIATION