

Background

The Business Advisory Committee (BAC) continues to provide insights and perspectives from across a variety of business sectors to guide and support Administration in the execution of business-friendly initiatives.

Context

The Business Advisory Committee (BAC) Working Group includes several external stakeholders) and are responsible for:

- 1) Bringing forth perceived barriers that business stakeholders face in their everyday operations, and opportunities for discussion;
- 2) Providing input into the plans and presentations they will receive from Administration on work being done to become more business-friendly;
- 3) Sharing updates with the broader community of business owners and investors once solutions or service improvements have been determined and implemented; and
- 4) Providing insight, advice, and recommend service improvements to the Business Advisory Committee, representing the customer perspective.

The BAC Working Group identified the restaurant and brewery industry as a key priority for BAC to address in 2020. BAC hosted three confidential meetings with representatives from the Restaurant/Brewery sector in July with the objective to collect their feedback on their experiences with The City.

Previous Council Direction

The Business Advisory Committee Q4 2019 – Q1 2020 Timeline and Work Plan and the amended Terms of Reference (BAC2019-1193) were approved at the 2019 September 30 Combined Meeting of Council.

The Business Advisory Committee Q4 2019 – Q1 2020 Work Plan identified several opportunities to prioritize perceived system barriers. Three priorities were identified:

- 1) Restaurants: Importance of being more responsive with timelines. Municipal and Provincial collaboration.
- 2) Change of Use: Stakeholders would like a focus on streamlining process and permitting.

3) Industrial Land: Ensuring City industrial land remains regionally competitive.

At the Combined Meeting of Council 2019 June 17, Council directed the Business Advisory Committee (BAC) to review Report PFC2019-0384, which further detailed the Social Procurement Pilot project concepts, application by other municipalities, along with an implementation work plan strategy for The City to consider. For further analysis of the report, Council requested BAC provide an opinion with respect to the Social Procurement Pilot project relative to The City and the continuance of the initiative. The Business Advisory Committee provided an opinion on Social Procurement (BAC2019 - 1524) at the Combined Meeting of Council 2019 December 16.

Business Advisory Committee

December 16, 2019

BAC2019-1254

Council approved the Business Advisory Committee opinion on Social Procurement, 1) Continue with the Social Procurement Pilot project as considered in Report PFC2019-0384, 2) Reduce the number of pilot projects to two; and 3) Change the name of the Policy from Social Procurement Policy to Benefit Driven Procurement Policy.

September 30, 2019

BAC2019-1193

Council approved the Business Advisory Committee Timeline and Work Plan, and amended Terms of Reference.

June 17, 2019

PFC2019-0384

Council adopted, through a Motion Arising, “that Council request the Business Advisory Committee to consider Report PFC2019-0384 and provide an opinion to Council no later than Q4 2019”, which further detailed the Social Procurement Pilot project concepts, application by other municipalities, along with an implementation work plan strategy for The City to consider. For further analysis of the report, Council requested BAC provide an opinion with respect to the Social Procurement Pilot project relative to The City and the continuance of the initiative.