



Coastal Communities Social Procurement Initiative Selected as one of Canada's Top 100 Recovery Projects

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For Immediate Release

Vancouver Island, BC — We are excited to share that the Coastal Communities Social Procurement Initiative (CCSPI) has been selected as one of Canada's Top 100 Recovery Projects by Future of Good. Future of Good selected CCSPI as a program helping communities not just return to normal, but build back better for a thriving decade.

"We're thrilled that CCSPI has been selected as a top recovery project," said Victoria Mayor Lisa Helps, CCSPI Co-Chair. "We began this initiative in 2016 to improve the health of our communities and the strength of our economies by changing the culture of public sector procurement. This work is now more important than ever."

CCSPI is a member-led initiative that provides local governments across the region with the training, expertise and support they need to integrate social procurement practices and community benefits into their existing purchasing. Participating governments access a full suite of professional development and training, templates, case studies, impact measurement tools and expert consultation support to implement social procurement practices in their community.

"It's exciting to see the community benefits and impact that local governments across Vancouver Island and coastal regions are experiencing as they embrace and implement social procurement. Their opportunity to be recognized is a reflection on the real value that local government and staff are receiving," stated City of Campbell River Councillor Colleen Evans, CCSPI Co-Chair.

In just two years, the CCSPI membership has grown from 6 to 20 local governments on Vancouver Island and the Coast. Collectively, members have realized over \$25 million in procurement spend with added community benefit. That means local employment and community benefits are generated from existing procurement dollars at a time when local economies need it most.

Social procurement is a key economic recovery opportunity for local governments by adding social value to their existing procurement in order to help economies and communities weather the storm of COVID-19.

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Backgrounder

More information about the Coastal Community Social Procurement Initiative can be found at www.ccspi.ca

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