

Supply Chain Code of Ethics Statement

(In compliance with the Ontario Broader Public Sector (BPS) Supply Chain Code of Ethics and Procurement Directive)

Purpose and Commitment

Rooted in YWCA Hamilton's values of integrity, equity, and inclusion, this statement affirms our commitment to ethical, transparent, and accountable practices in all procurement and supply chain activities. It fulfills the requirements under Section 9.0 of the Ontario Broader Public Sector (BPS) Procurement Directive, which mandates all BPS organizations to formally adopt and publicly post a Supply Chain Code of Ethics.

All employees, officers, agents, contractors, and others acting on behalf of YWCA Hamilton who are involved in supply chain activities including planning, sourcing, procurement, contracting, logistics, and payment must uphold the principles outlined below.

This statement complements YWCA Hamilton's internal Code of Ethics Policy, Conflict of Interest Policy, and Anti-Fraud Policy.

1. Accountability and Transparency

- Conduct procurement and contracting in a manner that is fair, open, and transparent, consistent with the principles of public accountability.
- Ensure that all decisions, approvals, and justifications are properly documented to support auditability and public confidence.
- Disclose and manage any real, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest in accordance with YWCA Hamilton's governance policies.

2. Integrity and Professionalism

- Act with honesty, fairness, care, and due diligence in all supply chain activities.
- Treat all suppliers, vendors, and partners equitably and without bias.
- Safeguard confidential and proprietary information belonging to suppliers, funders, and the organization.
- Refrain from accepting gifts, favours, or preferential treatment that could compromise impartial judgment or create the appearance of impropriety.

3. Value for Money and Fair Competition

- Strive to achieve best value for public and donor resources through competitive, transparent, and objective procurement processes.
- Apply clear, unbiased evaluation criteria to ensure supplier selection based on quality, service, price, and total value.
- Consider social, environmental, and sustainability factors in procurement decisions to support YWCA Hamilton's mission and community impact.

4. Compliance and Continuous Improvement

- Comply with all applicable laws, trade agreements, and regulations governing procurement and supply chain activities in Ontario and Canada.
- Stay informed of emerging best practices in ethical procurement and continuously improve systems, processes, and competencies.
- Expect all suppliers and contractors to adhere to these same ethical principles in their dealings with YWCA Hamilton and with each other.

5. Monitoring and Enforcement

- Breaches or suspected violations will be investigated and may result in disciplinary action, contract termination, or other corrective measures.
- This statement is publicly available on YWCA Hamilton's website and forms part of the organization's compliance with the Broader Public Sector Accountability Act (BPSAA).

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS

YWCA Hamilton Code of Ethics Policy YWCA

Approved by:

Medora Uppal, Chief Executive Officer