

# Aboriginal contract and procurement policy at BC Hydro

## Policy

Working together to build relationships that respect Aboriginal peoples' interests is important to BC Hydro. One way we are supporting the long-term economic interests of Aboriginal peoples in British Columbia is by committing to directed procurement opportunities for the benefit of Aboriginal communities in support of our relationship agreements, impact benefit agreements and other arrangements with Aboriginal groups.

Directed procurement opportunities may include the use of direct award negotiations, select competitive procurements, set asides and/or specific contract targets. Contract opportunities for Aboriginal businesses outside of these arrangements are also available through BC Hydro's general procurement processes. Directed procurement opportunities will be governed by the following principles:

1. Opportunities may be used to fulfill defined procurement commitments outlined in a relationship agreement, impact benefit agreement or similar arrangement with an Aboriginal group;
2. Awarded contracts must be at market competitive prices;
3. Awarded contracts must meet BC Hydro's expectations with respect to qualifications, safety and performance standards for the work;
4. The contracting party may be the Aboriginal group with whom BC Hydro has an arrangement, or may be a business designated by the Aboriginal group to perform the work (a designated business partner); and
5. When identifying directed procurement opportunities BC Hydro will take into account company-wide business and operational factors such as security of supply, competitive market impacts, and ongoing program costs and efficiencies.

BC Hydro also supports the engagement of Aboriginal communities, businesses and individuals through the terms of our contracts with contractors generally, and particularly where work is within an Aboriginal group's traditional territory. Where appropriate, BC Hydro will include targets and reporting requirements in our contracts with contractors to ensure that engagement requirements are being met.

In this Policy "Aboriginal" means First Nation, Inuit or Métis.



## Definition of Aboriginal Business

"Aboriginal Business" means any business arrangement in which Aboriginal individuals and/or Aboriginal communities have an ownership or other interest, and includes any business entity identified by an Aboriginal community as its designated business partner.

## Statement of Aboriginal Principles

BC Hydro is committed to respecting and supporting the interests of Aboriginal communities, Aboriginal Businesses and Aboriginal individuals in British Columbia.

BC Hydro's Statement of Aboriginal Principles is a commitment to work together to build relationships and respect these interests.

All Employees and Contractors are to ensure these principles are understood and acted upon. The Statement of Aboriginal Principles can be viewed here: [http://hw/our\\_bus/arn/Documents/ar\\_ten\\_principles.pdf](http://hw/our_bus/arn/Documents/ar_ten_principles.pdf)

## Aboriginal Business Directory

We invite Aboriginal vendors to register in the directory, and encourage non-Aboriginal businesses to explore opportunities in partnerships or subcontracting. Visit the Aboriginal Business Directory website: [bcaboriginalvendors.ca/aboriginal\\_vendors/](http://bcaboriginalvendors.ca/aboriginal_vendors/)

## For more information

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The Wolf gifted to BC Hydro by Art Thompson from the Dítidaht First Nation.



Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business

