

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- 1. What is the legislative framework the School Board uses for its contracting of supplies & services as contained in its policy?**

The current purchasing policy follows the legislative provisions found in the Act Respecting Contracting by Public Bodies and its associated Regulations.

- 2. What is the purpose of this legislation?**

The main purpose behind the Act Respecting Contracting by Public Bodies is to standardize the process of granting contracts for all public bodies (not just School Boards). Previously a number of statutes governed the contracting process. This became a difficult and often complex process for public bodies. This current legislation standardizes and further clarifies the rules associated with public contracting.

- 3. Why do we refer in section 5.1 of the policy to *an enterprise most of whose employees are handicapped persons*?**

Section 5.1 of the policy covers the scope or applicability.

Subsection 5.1.d specifically mentions suppliers, service providers or contractors who fall into 4 categories. Subsection 5.1.d is written as follows: an enterprise most of whose employees are handicapped persons. This wording is as found in the text of law for the Act Respecting Contracting by Public Bodies. A specific inclusion was made by the legislators in keeping with the representations received from those enterprises.

- 4. Why are there no limitations on how many times a supplier or contractor can be awarded a contract?**

The Act Respecting Contracting by Public Bodies aims to promote an open, honest and fair treatment of tenderers. It allows an opportunity for all qualified tenderers to compete in calls for tenders. Limiting the number of times a supplier or contractor could be awarded a contract or permitted to tender in our policy would be contrary to the legislation. The mechanisms in place are to ensure everyone gets a fair chance.

- 5. What are, if any, the limitations on the duration of any contract?**

The Act Respecting Contracting by Public Bodies and its associated Regulations covers the duration of contracts. In certain cases a maximum of 5 years is imposed. In general, the School Board signs contracts where the duration does not exceed 3 years.