BY-LAW NUMBER -12

- of -

THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF BRANT

To approve a purchasing policy

WHEREAS subsection 270 (1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25* provides that a municipality shall adopt a policy for the procurement of goods and services;

AND WHEREAS the fundamental objective of the procurement function is to provide operating departments with the goods and services they need in the right quantity, on a timely basis, as efficiently as possible, and at the lowest cost consistent with the required quality and to provide for an open and honest process in order to maintain the integrity of the process; and

AND WHEREAS section 23.1 of the *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25* authorizes a municipality to delegate its powers and duties subject to the restrictions as set out in the Act; and

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF BRANT HEREBY ENACTS as follows:

1.0 DEFINITIONS

In this By-law:

- 1.1 "Authority" means the right to conduct the tasks outlined in this By-law.
- 1.2 "Bid" means an offer or submission received from a vendor in response to a request which offer or submission may be accepted or rejected, and bidding is the process of submitting a bid and bidder is the vendor that submits the bid.
- 1.3 "Bid Opening Committee" means a committee consisting of a minimum of two County employees and comprised of a representative from the operating department and conducted under the chairmanship of the General Manager of Corporate Services, to facilitate the public opening of bids.
- 1.4 "Competent" means a bid from a vendor whose reputation, past performance and business and financial capabilities are such that the vendor would be judged as capable of satisfying the County's needs for a specific purchase.
- 1.5 **"Competitive"** means *vendors* are given an equal opportunity to compete for *County* business.
- 1.6 "**Compliant**" means a *bid* that does not vary from the mandatory requirements, specifications and terms and conditions set out in the *request*.
- 1.7 "Consultant" means a vendor, who by virtue of a particular expertise, is hired by the County to undertake a specific task or assignment that may include designing specifications and preparing plans or programs, architectural services, engineering or consulting services.

- 1.8 "**Contract**" means a legally binding agreement between two or more parties, usually written, for the exchange of *goods* and/or *services* for money or other consideration.
- 1.9 "Contract Extension" means an amendment to a contract which can include either an increase in funds, increase in the scope of work and or an extension in time and must meet specified criteria.
- 1.10 "Council" means the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the County of Brant.
- 1.11 "County" means The Corporation of the County of Brant.
- 1.12 "**Department**" means an operating department as set out in the *County organizational structure*.
- 1.13 "**Designate**" means a person authorized by the *General Manager* to act on his/her behalf, and authorized to procure *goods* and *services* up to a defined *purchase* amount and in accordance with this By-law.
- 1.14 "Direct (Emergency) Purchase Process" means a procurement process where the usual competitive procurement process is suspended due to the prevailing emergency circumstances as define in this By-law.
- 1.15 "Direct Negotiation" means a procurement process where the usual competitive procurement process is suspended and negotiations are entered into with one or more than one vendor.
- 1.16 "Direct Purchase" means a procurement process where a purchase is made from a selected vendor.
- 1.17 "Dispose" means the sale, exchange, transfer, destruction or gift of goods owned by the County which are deemed surplus to its needs, and "disposal" and "disposed" shall have similar meanings.
- 1.18 "Emergency" means a situation where the immediate purchase of goods and/or services or repair or replacement of equipment, or facilities is essential in order to maintain a required service or to prevent danger to residents or property within the County.
- 1.19 "Expression of Interest" means a situation where vendors approach the County or are solicited by the County and advise the County of their ability or desire to undertake County requirements.
- 1.20 "Formal Request for Quotation" means a competitive procurement process where vendors are requested to submit an offer in writing to provide some specified services, or to supply certain specified goods, for a specified price, in response to a publicly advertised request.
- 1.21 "General Manager" means the individual accountable for the operations of a department or their designate(s).
- 1.22 "General Manager of Corporate Services" means the General Manager of the Corporate Services Department or their designate(s).

- 1.23 "**Goods**" means all materials, equipment, fixtures, and structures to be delivered, installed or constructed.
- 1.24 "Informal Quotation" means a procurement process where requests for prices on specific goods and/or services are solicited from selected vendors and bids are submitted verbally, or in writing as specified in the request.
- 1.25 "Irregular Result" means any competitive procurement process where bids are submitted and any of the following has occurred:
 - (a) no bids received;
 - (b) two or more identical *competent* and *compliant* low *bids* have been received;
 - (c) the lowest *competent* and *compliant bid* exceeds the estimated cost or budget allocation;
 - (d) all bids received are either not competent or not compliant;
 - (e) for any reason the award of the *contract* to or the *purchase* from the lowest *competent* and *compliant vendor* is considered inappropriate;
 - (f) the By-law and *procedures* have not been followed; or
 - (g) less than three (3) valid *bids* are received.
- 1.26 "*Officer*" means any elected official or a member of a Board or a Committee of the *County*.
- 1.27 "**Procedures**" means internal instructions or guidelines to departments as approved by the *General Manager of Corporate Services*.
- 1.28 "**Procurement Process**" means the process by which the required *goods* and/or *services* are obtained.
- 1.29 "**Project Team**" means the individuals assigned by the *vendor* to manage the project.
- 1.30 "**Purchase**" means the act of acquiring *goods* and/or *services* of any legal or equitable interest, right or title in *goods* and/or *services* or the making of any *contract* or offer for *goods* and *services* and includes the lease of *goods* and/or *services*; and "purchased", "purchasing", "procurement", and "procure", shall have similar meanings.
- 1.31 "*Relative*" means a spouse (including common law spouse), parent, child, brother, sister, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, nephew, niece, uncle or aunt of an employee or *officer* of the *County*.
- 1.32 "Request" means either an "Informal Quotation", a "Formal Request for Quotation", a "Request for Proposal", or a "Request for Tender" as the context indicates.

- 1.33 "Request for Proposal" means a process where a need is identified, but how it will be achieved is unknown at the outset. This process allows *vendors* to propose solutions or methods to arrive at the end product at a specified price and allows for evaluation on criteria other than price.
- 1.34 "Request for Tender" means a request for vendors to submit an offer in writing to execute some specified services, or to supply certain specified goods, at a certain price, in response to a publicly advertised request.
- 1.35 "**Senior Management Team**" means the Chief Administrative Officer and the General Managers.
- 1.36 "Services" means any professional, consulting, construction, or maintenance services, including the delivery, installation, repair, restoration, demolition or removal of personal property and real property.
- 1.37 "Single Source" means there is more than one source in the open market but only for reasons of function or service one *vendor* is recommended for consideration of the particular *goods* and/or *services*.
- 1.38 "**Sole Source**" means there is only one source of supply of the particular *goods* and/or *services*.
- 1.39 "**Vendor**" means an individual, firm, supplier, vendor, contractor, architect, consultant, or bidder.

2.0 PURCHASING OBJECTIVES

It is the objective of this By-law to promote *procurement processes* and decisions which are consistent with the strategic objectives of the *County*, and which give consideration to the preservation of the natural environment; waste reduction and recycling; cooperative purchasing where beneficial; and the support of local and Canadian business and industry when possible, provided that the objectives of this By-law and the requirements of any applicable international or inter-provincial trade agreements are not compromised.

The principles which the *County* advocates include:

- 2.1 To promote the most cost effective and efficient use of *County* funds by attaining optimum quality, quantity, price, delivery and performance;
- 2.2 To exercise professional purchasing practices which obtain the most *competitive bids* from the most *competent* and *compliant vendors*;
- 2.3 To delegate the appropriate level of *authority* to enable the *County* to meet service requirements;
- 2.4 To ensure that employees who are responsible for the purchasing of *goods* and/or *services* are accountable for their actions and decisions;

- 2.5 To have regard to accessibility for persons with disabilities;
- 2.6 To maintain an open and honest process that is fair and impartial

3.0 AUTHORITY OF THE GENERAL MANAGER OF CORPORATE SERVICES

The General Manager of Corporate Services in consultation with the General Managers:

- 3.1 shall authorize the issuance of *requests*, and related *bid* documents and *contracts* in accordance with this By-law;
- is responsible for the administration of this By-law, including the development of any procedural requirements or standardized forms;
- 3.3 is responsible for assigning the appropriate level of delegated *authority*;
- 3.4 may remove a *vendor* from consideration for *County purchases* on the basis of poor performance evaluation.

4.0 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

- 4.1 A performance evaluation shall be completed at the substantial completion of a *contract* or more frequently if determined to be more appropriate in all *purchases* where:
 - 4.1.1 the cost of the *goods* or *services* received exceeds \$500,000;
 - in any other instance when the *General Manager* determines that a performance evaluation would be appropriate.
- 4.2 The performance evaluation form and criteria adopted from time to time and attached as Schedule C, shall be provided to the *vendor* upon acceptance of the *bid* by the County and shall be used to evaluate the *vendor* and the *project team* if applicable. The same evaluation criteria shall apply to all performance evaluations undertaken by the *County* but may be amended from time to time by the *Senior Management Team* for the *County*.
- 4.3 The *vendor* shall be provided with the written results of the performance evaluation.
- 4.4 The performance evaluation shall determine whether the *vendor* and/or *project team* will be allowed;
 - 4.4.1 to bid on future requests issued by the County, or
 - 4.4.2 be placed on a probationary list for three (3) years during which time they may *bid* on future *requests* issued by the *County*, or
 - 4.4.3 be prohibited from *bidding* on any future *requests* issued by the *County* for a period of three (3) years after which an application for reinstatement can be made.

- 4.5 In arriving at its decision the *County* shall be entitled to rely upon the performance evaluation criteria provided in advance of the *purchase*, and the results of prior performance evaluations relating to other *purchases* from the same *vendor* and/or *project team*.
- 4.6 No *bid* shall be accepted from any *vendor* and/or *project team* during the term of a prohibition.

5.0 APPLICATION OF BY-LAW

- 5.1 All *goods* and/or *services* required for the purposes of the *County*, save and except only those *goods* and/or *services*, listed in Schedule B to this by- law, shall be *purchased* and *disposed* of in accordance with the provisions of this By-law unless:
 - 5.1.1 County Council by resolution directs that any particular purchase or disposal of goods and/or services shall be carried out in some other manner or;
 - 5.1.2 any applicable law of the Province of Ontario or the Dominion of Canada requires that the *purchase* or *disposal* of *goods* and/or equipment be carried out in some other manner:
- 5.2 Where the circumstances mentioned in subsection 5.1.1 or 5.1.2 occur, the *purchase* or *disposal* of those *goods* and/or *services* shall be carried out in accordance with the resolution or the applicable law, as the case may be and the provisions of this By-law shall in all other regards continue to apply to such *purchase* or *disposal* with all necessary modifications.
- 5.3 The General Manager of Corporate Services, in consultation with the General Managers, is hereby authorized to prescribe procedures consistent with this By-law and the objectives set out in Item 2.0 regarding:
 - 5.3.1 the form, content and use of forms, whether electronic or printed, purchase orders, bonds, letters of credit and other forms of guarantees or surety, *request for quotations*, *tenders* or *proposals* and other *contract* documents;
 - 5.3.2 the *procurement process* or *disposal* method which will more effectively achieve the objectives of the By-law, where alternative methods are permitted and the process to be followed in the issuing, receipt and evaluation of *bids*:
 - 5.3.3 any other aspects of the process or procedure not specifically provided for under this By-law.

6.0 GENERAL AUTHORITY

- 6.1 The purchase of goods and/or services shall not be authorized unless:
 - 6.1.1 the required *goods* and/or *services* have been acquired in accordance with this By-law and any prescribed procedure;
 - 6.1.2 a *procurement process* permitted under this By-law has been used as detailed in Schedule A to this by-law;
 - 6.1.3 any change to the form and content of any prescribed documents forming any part of the *purchase contract* including but not limited to *request* for *quotation*, *tender* or *proposal* documents, form of agreement, special provisions, terms and conditions, insurance, surety bonds, have been reviewed by *General Manager of Corporate Services*; and
 - 6.1.4 the *purchase* has been approved by the appropriate level of *authority* as detailed in Schedule A to this by-law.
- 6.2 If a bid has been approved by Council and awarded to the successful bidder and the successful bidder fails to enter into a contract, the General Manager of the operating Department shall be granted the authority to award the contract to the vendor who has submitted the bid which was ranked second, based upon the applicable evaluation criteria, without going back to Council for approval, provided the bid is within budget. The General Manager of the operating department shall prepare a report to Council for information purposes.

7.0 PROCUREMENT PROCESSES

Unless otherwise provided in this By-law, all *goods* and/or *services* having a price within each of the dollar ranges set out in Column 1 of Schedule "A", to this By-law, shall be *purchased* using a *procurement process* listed in Column 2 and shall be authorized by the *officer*, employee, or *County Council* as listed in Column 3. Where an *irregular result* occurs, the purchase shall only be authorized by the Approval Authority listed in Column 3

7.1 DIRECT PURCHASE

The *Direct Purchase* is a *procurement process* carried out by the *General Manager* of the operating *department*.

7.2 INFORMAL QUOTATION

The *Informal Quotation* process is *procurement process* where the *General Manager* of the operating *department* is required to solicit at least three (3) written or verbal quotes and to evaluate all *competent* and *compliant bids* based on price. Verbal quotes must be recorded.

7.3 FORMAL REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

The Formal Request for Quotation process is a competitive procurement process, commenced by the issuance of a Formal Request for Quotation, by the General Manager of the operating department. The request for quotations shall be advertised by posting on the County website at least five (5) days prior to the specified closing date and time. Other advertising venues may be utilized at the discretion of the General Manager of the operating department.

The Formal Request for Quotation process requires that written bids be received on or before the specified closing date and time, and that all competent and compliant bids be evaluated based on the evaluation criteria contained in the Formal Request for Quotations document.

7.4 TENDER PROCESS

The *Tender* process is a *competitive procurement process*, commenced by the issuance of a *request for tender*, by the *General Manager* of the operating *department*. The *Request for Tender* shall be advertised in accordance with the *County* advertising policy and shall be posted on the *County* website at least fifteen (15) days prior to the specified closing date and time. Other advertising venues may be utilized at the discretion of the *General Manager* of the operating *department*.

A Request for Tender requires that all bids be sealed and received on or before the specified closing date and time, and all bids be opened in public by the Bid Opening Committee. All competent and compliant bids will be evaluated by the operating department in accordance with the evaluation criteria listed below, as set out in the request for tender documents.

Evaluation Criteria

7.4.1 If *vendors* have been pre-qualified the *bid* will be evaluated in accordance with the following evaluation criteria:

Price 100%

7.4.2 If *vendors* have not been pre-qualified the *bid* will be evaluated in accordance with the following evaluation criteria:

Price 70% Other Criteria as listed in *Request for Tender* 30%

Approvals

7.4.3 If the *bid* is evaluated based on criteria other than that listed in 7.4.1. and 7.4.2. the *General Manager* of the operating *department* shall prepare a report to the applicable Standing Committee of *Council*, for approval of the award.

7.5 REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL PROCESS

The Request for Proposal process is a competitive procurement process that involves the solicitation of bids when the requirements for goods and/or services cannot be definitely specified. It may or may not include pre- qualification or an expression of interest. This process has the most flexibility and will generally be governed by the terms of the Request for Proposal as developed by the County.

The Request for Proposal shall be advertised in accordance with the County advertising policy and shall be posted on the County website at least fifteen (15) days prior to the specified closing date and time.

A Request for Proposal requires that all bids be sealed and received on or before the specified closing date and time and that all bids be opened in public by the Bid Opening Committee.

All *competent and compliant bids* will be evaluated based on the evaluation criteria contained in the *Request for Proposal document*.

7.6 DIRECT (EMERGENCY) PURCHASE PROCESS

The Direct (Emergency) Purchase Process is a procurement process that may be used when the purchase of any goods and/or services is deemed an emergency, and when the General Manager of the operating department authorizes the procurement process outlined in this By-law be suspended. This process is undertaken at the sole discretion of the General Manager of the operating department who will provide written justification to the General Manager of Corporate Services, indicating why the prescribed procurement process was not followed. The General Manager of Corporate Services shall prepare an information report to the Corporate Development Committee detailing any Direct (Emergency) Purchase in excess of \$250,000.

7.7 DIRECT NEGOTIATED PROCESS

The *Direct Negotiated Process* is a *procurement process*, which permits the *General Manager* of the operating *department*, in consultation with the *General Manager of Corporate Services* to enter into negotiations with one or more *vendors* for the supply of *goods* and/or *services* when any of the following conditions apply:

- 7.7.1 No bids are received on a Formal Request for Quotation, Request for Tender or Request for Proposal call;
- 7.7.2 The extension or reinstatement of an existing *contract* would prove more cost effective or beneficial;
- 7.7.3 Bids have been solicited using one of the procurement processes with all bids received being not compliant or not competent;
- 7.7.4 Goods and /or services are available from a single source or sole source;

- 7.7.5. *Goods* are required for resale and the determining criteria is marketability and profitability as determined by the operating *department* when costs are recovered through sales;
- 7.7.6. An unsolicited proposal is received by the *County* and it is determined that it is in the best interests of the *County* to *single source*.

7.8 COOPERATIVE PURCHASING

Cooperative purchasing is a *procurement process* where the *County* participates with other governments, agencies or public authorities in co-operative ventures or *contracts* where the best interest of the *County* would be served, provided the objectives of this By-law are met.

7.9 CONTRACT EXTENSIONS

Contract Extension is a procurement process where a specified renewal price is stated in a bid. The General Manager of the applicable department is authorized to execute any contract extensions with the successful bidder in accordance with a specified renewal price as stated in the bid.

7.10 FORMAL AGREEMENTS

Where in accordance with this By-law, *Council* approval to *purchase* is not required, the *General Manager* of the operating *department* is authorized to execute any *contracts* that are required.

7.11 TIE BIDS RECEIVED

In the case of tied *bids*, the successful *bidder* will be selected by public coin toss, upon the giving of reasonable notice to the tied *bidders* of the date and time of the coin toss and in the presence of the *General Manager of Corporate Services*.

7.12 DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

A *vendor* that has provided design services or specifications for a *request* shall not be permitted to *bid* on the *request* unless authorized by *Council*.

7.13 RESTRICTED CONTACT PERIOD THROUGHOUT THE BIDDING PERIOD

Every Formal Request for Quotation, Request for Proposal and Request for Tender shall name an official County contact and may name an alternate contact and that person or their alternate if applicable are the **only** person(s) who are authorized to communicate with vendors during the procurement process, which commences at the issuance of the request and is concluded upon acceptance of the bid. All inquiries from vendors are required to be submitted in writing and all responses to those inquiries from the County shall be in writing and shall be provided to all vendors that have requested a bid document.

8.0 DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS GOODS AND/OR EQUIPMENT

The General Manager of Corporate Services is authorized to dispose of surplus, obsolete or non repairable goods and equipment declared surplus by authorizing its distribution for use by other County departments or if no longer useful for County purposes, by arranging for their disposal at the highest return using one of the following methods:

- 8.1 scrap, dismantle or destroy, classify as waste and *dispose*;
- 8.2 donate or sell for a nominal fee to a non-profit or charitable organization;
- 8.3 trade-in;
- 8.4 sell by request for quotation, proposal, or tender;
- 8.5 public auction;

9.0 BY- LAW ADMINISTRATION AND COMPLIANCE

- 9.1 The General Manager of Corporate Services shall prepare and maintain the appropriate purchasing administrative procedures to implement this Bylaw.
- 9.2 All employees of the *County* shall act in a manner consistent with the objectives of the By-law.
- 9.3 No purchase of goods and/or services or disposal of surplus goods, or equipment shall be made where the quantity or delivery is divided or in any other manner arranged so that the price of the goods and services to be acquired or disposed of is artificially reduced to circumvent the prescribed procurement process.
- 9.4 Prior to approval of the current budget, a *department* may incur normal operating expenditures.
 - Approval of a capital budget for a project by *Council* shall constitute authorization for any *purchase* to perform the authorized capital project, within the approved project cost provided any *purchase* is conducted in accordance with this By-law. Where the *purchase* cost exceeds the approved budget by 10% or more, the *General Manager* must obtained *Council* approval for the *purchase*.
- 9.5 No officer or employee or any relative of that officer or employee shall be permitted to purchase any surplus goods to be disposed of except by successfully bidding on the same at a public auction or by sealed bid but in no case if the duties of that officer or employee include making decisions regarding the disposal of such goods or activities relating to the conduct of the disposal process.
- 9.6 Officers and employees shall not knowingly cause or permit anything to be done or communicated to anyone which is likely to cause any potential *vendor* to have an unfair advantage or disadvantage in obtaining a *contract* for the supply of *goods* and/or *services* to the *County*, or any other municipality, local board or public body involved in the *purchase* of *goods* and *services* either jointly or in cooperation with the *County*.
- 9.7 No *officer* or employee shall knowingly cause or permit anything to be done

, 2012.

- which will jeopardize the legal validity or fairness of any *purchase* of *goods* and/or *services* under this By-law which is likely to subject the *County* to any claim, demand, action or proceeding as a result of such act or omission.
- 9.8 No officer or employee shall open any bid or purchase any goods and/or services from an elected official, officer or employee of the County without the prior approval of Council.

10.0 LEGAL CLAIMS

A *bid* will not be accepted from any *vendor* who is involved a legal proceeding with the *County* with respect to any previous *procurement process, purchase or contract for goods and services*, without the prior approval of *Council*.

11.0 REPEAL OF FORMER PURCHASING BY-LAW

By-law # 271-04 and any resolutions with respect to purchasing approved prior to the enactment of this by-law are hereby repealed.

12.0 SHORT TITLE

Т	his	by-l	aw:	shall	be	known as	"The	Purc	hasing	By-	law"	

READ a first and second time, this day of , 2012.

READ a third time and finally passed in Council, this day of

THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF BRANT

Mayor		
Clerk		

SCHEDULE "A" – BY-LAW NUMBER -12

COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2	COLUMN 3		
DOLLAR RANGES	PROCUREMENT PROCESSES	APPROVAL AUTHORITY		
Any dollar value	Direct (Emergency) Purchase	General Manager of Operating Department Subject to reporting requirements in section 8.6		
0-10,000	Direct Purchase	General Manager of Operating Department		
	Request for Proposals	Department		
	Direct Negotiation			
	Contract Extensions			
	Irregular Result			
	Cooperative Purchasing			
10,000.01-75,000.00	Informal Quotation	General Manager of Operating		
	Request for Proposals	Department		
	Direct Negotiation			
	Contract Extensions			
	Irregular Result			
	Cooperative Purchasing			
75,000.01-250,000	Formal Request for Quotations	General Manager of Operating Department and General		
	Request for Proposals	Manager of Corporate Services		
	Direct Negotiation	If Operating Department is		
	Contract Extensions	Corporate Services- General Manager of Corporate Services		
	Irregular result	and Treasurer		
	Cooperative Purchasing			

SCHEDULE "A" – BY-LAW NUMBER -12

250,000.01 or more	Request for Tender	Council
	Request for Proposals	
	Direct Negotiation	
	Contract Extensions	
	Irregular Result	
	Cooperative Purchasing	

SCHEDULE "B" TO BY-LAW NUMBER -12

The following items are not subject to the County's Purchasing By-law

1.0 Training and Education

2.0 Refundable Employee Expenses

(a) Meal Allowances

(d) Hotel Accommodation

(b) Travel Expenses

(e) Mileage

(c) Public Relations

3.0 General Expenses

- (a) Licenses (vehicles, elevators, radios, etc.)
- (b) Charges to or from other government bodies or Crown Corporations except for construction and/or maintenance projects
- (c) Real Estate including land, buildings, leasehold interests, easements, encroachments and licenses
- (d) periodicals, magazines or subscriptions
- (e) Professional and special services, including appraisals, medical, surveyors, banking, auditors
- (f) Freight charges
- (g) Legal Fees and other professional services related to litigation or legal matters
- (h) Witness Fees
- (i) Charges to or from government legislated controlled agencies (i.e. Technical Standards & Safety Association, Electrical Safety Authority, Liquor Control Board
- (j) Original works of art
- (k) Entertainers (i.e. for Theatre, Special Events)

4.0 <u>Utilities</u>