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For Immediate Release

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## **Sandra Hamilton to Address WTO Symposium in Geneva**

**Comox Valley, B.C.** – Sandra Hamilton's work transforming how the public sector spends tax dollars is generating some high profile speaking invitations. Hamilton, Canadian nominee and Social Procurement expert, is heading to Geneva later this month to address the World Trade Organization (WTO) Symposium on Sustainable Government Procurement.

What are the key practices of sustainable procurement and how can sustainability be incorporated into the different stages of procurement?

This is the question that Hamilton has been asked to address. Showcasing her innovative work to advance Social Procurement among Vancouver Island municipalities and with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, the title of Hamilton's WTO speech is: *Procurement Strategy; the importance of people, in a people, planet profit approach to sustainable government procurement.*

**Sandra Hamilton is Canada's First Social MBA and a Public Sector Social Procurement Advisor**  
Hamilton works with industry and government to modernize procurement processes and achieve more social value through public sector supply chains. She is the former Business Manager to Vancouver 2010 Olympics CEO John Furlong and has designed both British Columbia's & Alberta's first Social Procurement Frameworks.

"There is significant interest and momentum" says Hamilton, who describes Social Procurement as simply a way to better leverage taxpayer funded contracts to improve lives and align with important community objectives."

Hamilton's speeches at conferences such as the Union of BC Municipalities and at the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities, have been a significant catalyst for seeing resolutions to advance Social Procurement being passed by local government delegates.

### **Understanding Community Benefit Procurement:**

If you can't make it to Geneva, Hamilton is speaking this week at 7pm on Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre. Everyone is welcome.

Please register in advance at the [Town of Qualicum Beach website](#).

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**Sandra Hamilton is Canada's First Social MBA and a Public Sector Social Procurement Advisor**  
Hamilton works with all three levels of government and with public owners to modernize procurement processes and achieve more social value through public sector supply chains. She is the former Business Manager to Vancouver 2010 Olympics CEO John Furlong and has designed both British Columbia's & Alberta's first Social Procurement Frameworks.

Hamilton will address the World Trade Organization (WTO) Symposium on Sustainable Government Procurement in Geneva in February and will be speaking on the topic of Social Procurement at the 2017 Canadian Construction Conference in Mexico.

### Background Resources

- [Understanding Community Benefit Procurement - A Vendor Education Event](#)  
Wednesday February 8<sup>th</sup> 2017 - 7pm – Town of Qualicum Beach
- [The Changing Face of Public Sector Procurement](#) – Sandra Hamilton  
Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has included social procurement in his mandate letter to Minister Judy Foote, Federal Minister of Procurement. Social Procurement is law across Europe.
- [The Mayor's Task Force on Social Enterprise and Social Procurement](#)  
January to February 12<sup>th</sup> 2017 - Seeking input to help shape its draft action plan
- [Cumberland – Social Innovation in Public Sector Procurement](#)  
BUILD Magazine, Fall 2016
- [Sandra Hamilton the matriarch of Social Procurement](#)  
Rebuilding Fort McMurray after the Wildfires

