

Brownfields development: September 30, 2009

As part of the GSCC's annual presentation/submission to city council concerning the budget, First-vice chair André Dumais offered the GSCC's opinion on a variety of issues related to the budget. One particular subject was the absence of a brownfields inventory. In the presentation, the GSCC requested that council speed up the process to get the inventory completed and indexed for business access. The GSCC suggested that a completed index would be a good tool to attract businesses.





February 13, 2009

Ms Agnes Beck
Manager of Supplies and Services
City of Greater Sudbury
P O Box 5000, Stn A
Sudbury, ON P3A 5P3

Dear Ms Beck

On behalf of the Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce I wish to thank you for your attendance at our Advocacy Committee meeting on February 5th, 2009. We sincerely appreciate your request for the Chamber's input into your research on the establishment of a "Buy Canadian" policy for the City of Greater Sudbury.

As you mentioned, the Sudbury Chamber had previously indicated to your predecessor, Darryl Mathe, that it did not support the establishment of a "Buy Canadian" policy for the City. We understand the majority of the City's purchasing is conducted within Northern Ontario, making such a policy redundant. As well, a "Buy Canadian" policy may be in contravention of existing trade agreements. We expect the City's purchasing policies and activities to be conducted in a manner which provides the best return for the taxpayers. In addition, if Greater Sudbury were seen to be implementing an exclusionary policy, the Sudbury business community could similarly suffer from being excluded from opportunities elsewhere.

Following your discussion with the Advocacy Committee, the committee determined it will not recommend any changes to our position, and will be communicating this to our Board of Directors.

Once again, please accept our thanks for seeking the business community's input in preparation for your report to City Council and for attending the Advocacy Committee meeting. We look forward to a continuing dialogue with your office.

Yours truly

Brian R. Gatien
CHAIR