

**Moved by: Trustee Rizzo**

**Toronto Catholic DSB**

**Seconded by:**

**Topic: Canada First Approach**

**Whereas:** The Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) buys a variety of items for schools including furniture, books, classroom and off supplies and technology as well as construction, maintenance, design services, caretaking supplies and equipment, etc;

**Whereas:** The TCDSB serves the public with fair, open, and transparent procurement practices and adheres to the Broader Public Sector Procurement Directive and all applicable laws and policies,

**Whereas:** It is essential to inspire future generations to become informed and conscientious consumers who prioritize supporting local and national products, fostering economic growth and prosperity within our cities, provinces, and country;

**Whereas:** The United States is anticipated to introduce new tariffs and/or trade-restrictive measures targeting Canada;

**Whereas:** Recently Canada's Prime Minister emphasized the importance of protecting domestic industries, workers and economic interests in response to anticipated U.S. tariffs; and

**Whereas:** It is important for students to develop life skills as informed consumers, and it is the responsibility of school boards to integrate curriculum programs that foster a 'Canada First' mindset.

**Therefore Be It Resolved That:** The TCDSB request the Government of Ontario create a list of Canadian companies to make it easier for school board procurement practices;

**Therefore Be It Resolved That:** The TCDSB request changes (if necessary) to the Broader Public Sector Procurement Directive to allow for criteria to give preferential consideration to purchase Canadian goods and services;

**Therefore Be It Further Resolved That:** The Director of Education investigate ways in which a 'Canada First' approach can be promoted within the TCDSB;

**Therefore Be It Further Resolved That:** The Province of Ontario be requested to develop 'Canada First' curriculum;

**Therefore Be It Further Resolved That:** The Province encourage, promote and fund 'Canada First' policies and actions to support school boards; and

**Therefore Be It Further Resolved That:** This motion be forwarded to the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association and the Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association.