BC Procurement Plan

With the needs of the public, suppliers, and buyers in mind, we're making sure public dollars unlock a brighter future for everyone through the three strategic missions.





Mission 1: Leverage purchasing power

Use government's purchasing power to advance reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, improve social and environmental outcomes, and promote innovation.

Action



BC government buyers must:

- Use <u>Social Impact Purchasing Guidelines</u> for services under \$75,000, prioritizing traditionally underrepresented groups.
- Apply the Environmentally Responsible Procurement Guidelines for goods to reduce environmental impact.
- Consider social, Indigenous, environmental, or economic criteria for all purchases for the best outcomes for British Columbians.

Leverage government's buying power.

BC government buyers must:

• Use Corporate Supply Arrangements to leverage government's buying power and establish new ones where there is increased demand for services or goods.

Support

The Ministry of Citizens' Services will:

- Continue to work with ministries to enhance procurement processes for better social and environmental outcomes.
- Continue to work with the Indigenous Procurement Initiative's External Advisory Committee to address gaps, barriers, and inequities faced by Indigenous vendors.
- Expand the availability of Indigenous-specific corporate supply arrangements across government.
- Support the advancement of social, Indigenous, environmental, and economic outcomes through the Impact Procurement Pilot program.

Mission 2: Increase supplier access

Make it easier for vendors of all sizes to work with government.

Action

Make it easier for vendors of all sizes and types to work with us.

BC government buyers must:

- Engage with vendors through Requests for Information (RFI) and Discovery Day events to explore solutions for government challenges.
- Inform the marketplace early of significant upcoming planned procurements, giving all potential suppliers adequate time to prepare the highest quality proposal.

Lequitable access for all vendors.

BC government buyers must:

- Collaborate across government to identify gaps and opportunities to increase participation by diverse vendors and communities in procurements.
- Use BC Bid to provide transparency in purchases.

Support

The Ministry of Citizens' Services will:

- Develop a framework to include measures for buying local in government purchases where suitable.
- Learn from BC small vendors what barriers they face in selling to government and explore training and support tools to remove those barriers.
- Support Ministries to use RFIs and Discovery Day events to better connect with the marketplace and find solutions to their challenges.
- Lead a pilot project to make procurement and contract documents more accessible including the use of plain language.



Mission 3: Build capacity

Build greater capacity for procurement in the BC public service through enhanced career planning, training, and support.

Action

Build procurement knowledge.

BC government buyers must:

- Require all public servants involved in procurement and contract management to have baseline procurement and contract management knowledge through Procurement Foundations training.
- Support all government buyers to receive up-to-date procurement and contract management skills training.
- Collaborate across government to identify gaps, opportunities, and share knowledge to build good procurement practice standards.

Support

The Ministry of Citizens' Services will:

- Partner with the BC Public Service Agency to establish clear career pathways in procurement.
- Update procurement training, support, and tools for public service procurement professionals.
- Develop operational policy, guidelines, and resources for consistent procurement practice and make it easier to do business with government.

