

Procurement Improvement Backgrounder

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Today the Saskatchewan Government announced further progress delivering on its 13-initiative procurement transformation action plan with five more supporting policies being implemented across ministries and the Crown sector.

Policy	Purpose	Examples
Best Value based procurement	<p>Ensures a fuller range of criteria, including price, are considered based on the specific needs of the goods or services being purchased.</p> <p>A more comprehensive decision making approach that ultimately provides greater value for taxpayers.</p>	<p>Not a one-size fits all approach – criteria are selected in advance of the competition to meet the specific needs of the procurement and may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality • Budget, timing and resource considerations • Vendor experience, performance history and demonstrated ability • Safety practices • Knowledge of local conditions such as geotechnical, environmental, local laws, codes and requirements, etc. • Innovation, creativity and originality demonstrated; • Cost of ownership over the life of the good or service • And more
Conflict of Interest	<p>Requirement for seller to declare any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest and for those conflicts to be appropriately addressed by government procuring entity.</p>	<p>Conflicts may include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Former employees or consultants of the government/Crown sector with information not otherwise publicly available involved in the bid. • Friends and family of vendors involved in the decision making process.
Multi-staged procurement	<p>Process to shortlist bidders to ensure only the bidders with relatively good chance of success will invest significant amounts of time and money in competitions.</p> <p>The policy is mandatory* for construction projects over \$20 million and goods and services contracts over \$10 million, or for complex projects of any size.</p> <p><i>*Exceptions must be approved in advance by the</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large construction projects which have large costs in creating the vendor proposal have a two stage process to first qualify only a certain number of vendors and then have only those vendors proceed to the main cost associated with preparing a proposal.

	<i>Deputy Minister or organization head.</i>	
Procurement Code of Conduct	<p>Formal declaration that describes to both buyers and sellers what behaviors are expected in the procurement process.</p> <p>This will bring greater consistency and supports open, transparent, and respectful procurement.</p> <p>Deals with conflict of interest for employees of government procuring entity.</p>	<p>Establishes clear expectations to meet the highest ethical standards based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairness • Accountability • Honesty • Integrity • Compliance with the law and trade agreements
Vendor debriefing	<p>To ensure vendors can request a debriefing following procurement and to ensure there is a consistent approach to debriefings.</p> <p>This is a dialogue to provide vendors with feedback and for government and Crowns to receive feedback from vendors.</p>	<p>To allow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vendors to receive constructive and meaningful feedback on the strength of their proposal; • Vendors to learn where improvement may be made for future submissions; and • Government to receive constructive feedback on where the process may be improved.

For more information, contact:

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