

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT POLICIES

Province	Purchasing Agent	Source Lists	Bidding Procedures	Award Premiums	Award Procedures
BRITISH COLUMBIA	B.C. Purchasing Commission	Registration through application and interview. To remain on the list, a firm must respond to every "invitation to quote".	Bidding open to all qualified suppliers on the source list. In exceptional circumstances, public tenders are published in newspapers or trade journals.	For purchases under \$200,000 a 10% premium for provincial suppliers and 5% for Canadian suppliers. May be waived if bid offers significant economic value.	Based on price, quality and overall value to B.C.
ALBERTA	Purchasing branch of Alberta Public Works, Supply & Services.	Apply to be registered on the source list. May or may not be interviewed.	Bidding open to all registered suppliers. For crown corporations, suppliers must be known to the buyers.	None	No stated or implied preference policy. If all things equal, Alberta or Canadian suppliers preferred.
SASKATCHEWAN	Purchasing Agency Branch of the Dept. of Supply & Services.	Contact agency of interest. An interview is then conducted.	Invitational bidding.	None	Quality, service and price equal: preference given to Saskatchewan suppliers.
MANITOBA	Purchasing branch, Dept. of Government Services.	Through application and interview.	Invitational bidding for most purchases; however, if time is not a factor, bidding is open to all on the source list.	No set percentage. Various factors are considered (i.e. size of firm, number of employees, tax return to the province). All information is given to the Minister for discretionary decisions.	No stated or implied preference policy: if all things equal, Manitoba preferred. The province has a "Buy Manitoba" policy which allows for some discretionary consideration to local manufacturers.
ONTARIO	Ontario Ministries (according to product classification).	Ministries maintain their own lists. Application and a possible interview is the procedure.	Public tenders unless otherwise specified by a Ministry; in that case, bids are obtained by verbal or written invitations.	None	All suppliers given equal opportunity to compete. Lowest responsible bid is chosen. Preference for industrial development and Canadian content.
QUEBEC	Ministère des Travaux Publics et de l'Approvisionnement.	Only firms with operations in Quebec can be registered on the source list.	Invitational bidding under \$50,000 on a rotational basis through the source list.	No set percentage but Quebec and Canadian content a factor in the decision.	Bids evaluated on the basis of product meeting specifications, percentage of Quebec and Canadian content, and price.
NOVA SCOTIA	Nova Scotia Central Purchasing Agency.	Application	90% to 95% of bids are obtained through invitation; the rest are procured by public tendering, depending on the type of purchase. Tenders can be limited if Nova Scotia suppliers are considered reasonably competitive.	No set percentage. Any premiums given are based on Atlantic value-added.	Purchase within Nova Scotia whenever possible. If 3 or more Nova Scotia suppliers exist for the product, no outside bids are solicited.
NEW BRUNSWICK	New Brunswick Central Purchasing Agency.	Application	Over \$25,000, tenders are publicly advertised in the New Brunswick paper. Under \$25,000, bidding is invitational through a rotational basis.	No set percentage. New Brunswick input (value-added) is considered first, then Atlantic.	Bids are evaluated by cost and impact on the economy. If 3 or more provincial suppliers exist for the product, no bids are solicited from outside the province.
NEWFOUNDLAND	Newfoundland Central Purchasing Agency.	Application	Over \$5,000, bids are open to public tender. Under \$5,000, bids are conducted invitational.	Preference rate factor of 10% value-added (provincial content).	Purchase within Newfoundland whenever possible.
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	Director of Purchasing, Dept. of Finance and Tourism	Apply to be registered on the source list.	For purchases under \$1,500, 3 firms are selected by the Director from a source list to bid. For purchases over \$1,500, the bidding is invitational.	No fixed percentage; P.E.I. and Atlantic input are considered, then Canadian content.	