



Extremely 'Early Spring' Procurement Happenings

Innovation in Bloom

RFPS is a proud sponsor of the [Canadian Institute for Procurement and Materiel Management CIPMM Breakfast Sessions](#).

CIPMM holds up to 4 sessions a year which consist of presentations, panels, armchair discussions and videoconferences on topics of interest to the materiel management, fleet management and procurement communities in the National Capital Region.

RFPS supports these important sessions as they serve as a rare opportunity for public and private sectors to meet to exchange topical procurement information and often shed light on practical solutions to problems currently facing the two procurement communities.

One of the more innovative solutions we've encountered at a recent CIPMM Breakfast Session (sponsored by RFPS) was an

[Overview of the Build in Canada](#)

[Innovation Program \(BCIP\)](#).

The session focussed on the program's unique approach to procurement, the key stages of the BCIP process, and the newly added military component.

Announced in Budget 2010 and made permanent in Budget 2012, BCIP supports Canadian businesses by procuring and testing their late stage innovative products and services within the federal government before the company launches them into the commercial market.

[Learn More about this program!](#)

RFPSOLUTIONS' RFPUpdate

contains news, insights, links to published articles and other helpful information aimed at keeping public sector managers well informed and up-to-date on the latest developments in the field of Canadian public sector procurement.

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What Else is New

The ground might still be frozen outside, but here are some highlights on what has been blossoming in the field of procurement:

ON New eTendering Solution

Starting in March 2014, Supply Chain Ontario, on behalf of the Ontario government, will begin transitioning to a new **electronic tendering (eTendering) solution**, replacing the services and site currently provided through MERX Networks Inc.

These services include access to Ontario government open procurement opportunities such as requests for tenders and proposals for goods and services. With the new BravoSolution eTendering solution, vendors:

- will have access to Ontario government procurement opportunities for goods and services
- will be required to undertake a one-time registration prior to downloading or accessing procurement documents
- will not be required to purchase a subscription to access and review procurement documents.

[Stay Tuned for Updates](#)

Trade Agreements: Thresholds Update

The thresholds in effect from January 1, 2014 - December 31, 2015 for procurements subject to various international trade agreements are set out in a table published on the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS) website. While the thresholds for the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) have not changed, all the others have been updated.

[See the Thresholds on the TBS site](#)

Tools, Tips & Info

Winter Procurement Tips

Procuring goods and services during the winter months can be challenging. To help our public sector Clients to safely navigate the hazardous winter procurement conditions and Request-for-Proposal (RFP) obstacles, we've developed some [Winter Procurement Tips](#) that provide the knowledge, tools and support needed to enjoy an effective, successful and happy end to an otherwise frigid fiscal quarter:



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