

HELPING NUNAVUT INUIT ACCESS GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FEDERAL PROCUREMENT BASICS: DEFENCE CONSTRUCTION CANADA

GUIDE 3B OF 4



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Qikiqtaaluk Business
Development Corporation

Qikiqtaaluk Business Development Corporation (QBDC) was created to stimulate local, regional and territorial economic development opportunities. Creating partnerships and collaborating with communities, QBDC works to build prosperous, more self-sufficient communities by creating work and capacity building opportunities.

QBDC has developed two informational series to help Inuit businesses access government work and funding opportunities.

The first series is called *Helping Nunavut Inuit Access Procurement Opportunities*. This series answers questions and provides information and resources to help Inuit businesses find work opportunities with the government.

The second series is called *Helping Nunavut Inuit Access Funding Opportunities*. This series provides information to help Inuit access funding to help start or grow your business and to implement your projects.

The first series has four guides and the second series has three guides. All guides are available in Inuktitut and English.

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Indigenous Services
Canada

Services aux
Autochtones Canada



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QIKIQTAALUK CORPORATION
& Group of Companies
1-827-979-8600 | www.qbdc.ca

DEFENCE CONSTRUCTION CANADA PROCUREMENT

DEFENCE
CONSTRUCTION
CANADA



CONSTRUCTION
DE DÉFENSE
CANADA

Defence Construction Canada (DCC) is a Federal Crown Corporation that manages procurement for the Department of National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces.

Annually, DCC issues about 2000 contracts for goods and services worth over \$1 billion. This includes things such as small and large construction projects, facility maintenance, and environmental services.



DCC PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Defence Construction Canada (DCC) uses many of the same procurement methods as Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC).

The main differences between DCC and PSPC procurement is:

- DCC uses [MERX](#) to post solicitation documents.
- Many of the projects that DCC manages on behalf of the Department of National Defence require suppliers to obtain a security clearance.

DCC has many infrastructure-related solicitation processes. Some include:

- Design-bid-build
- Standing offers
- Source Lists
- Facility maintenance contracts
- Energy-performance Contracts



OPPORTUNITIES FOR INUIT BUSINESSES

DCC is committed to increasing procurement opportunities for Indigenous businesses.

This means that whenever possible, DCC procurement opportunities within the Nunavut Settlement Area are only available to Inuit businesses registered on the [NTI Inuit Firm Registry](#).



If there is a procurement opportunity that you are interested in but your business does not provide all the required services, look for partnership opportunities with other firms. Join business networks and register on Inuit Firm databases to promote your business.

PUBLIC SOLICITATION



Defence Construction Canada advertises solicitations on [buyandsell](#) but solicitation documents must be obtained from [MERX](#).

MERX is an independent online procurement system. Some DCC solicitations posted on MERX require bids and offers to be submitted electronically. This is called **e-bidding**.

Some DCC solicitations do accept paper submissions through mail. The solicitation documents will identify if paper submissions are accepted.

For more information on public solicitation see *Guide 3A: Federal Procurement Opportunities: Public Services and Procurement Canada*.



MERX REGISTRATION

You must [register with MERX](#) to download solicitation documents and e-bid on procurement opportunities. There is a fee to register.

There are registration options with lower fees that allow you to access only northern solicitation opportunities or only DCC opportunities.

You do not need to register with MERX to view DCC solicitation opportunities. Try emailing the DCC contact listed on the solicitation documents to request solicitation documents be emailed to you.



RESOURCES ON E-BIDDING

E-bidding may seem like a complex process. There are resources to help you:

- Personnel at DCC: email info@dcc-cdc.gc.ca
- MERX user [guides and videos](#)
- DCC resources on [electronic bidding](#) and [submitting a proposal](#)

SOLE SOURCE



Similar to PSPC, DCC only uses sole sourcing in special circumstances. It can be used for:

- Low dollar value procurement
- Emergencies and national security
- When only one supplier exists for the required goods or service

Sole sourcing is only used in less than 5 percent of DCC's construction contracts.



DCC **low dollar value procurement** is contracts valued under \$25,000 for goods and services such as construction and \$100,000 for architectural and engineering services.

STANDING OFFERS & SOURCE LISTS



DCC uses **Standing Offers** for services needed on a regular basis. Typically one or two firms will be on one standing offer.

DCC has **Source Lists** of prequalified suppliers for services that are needed on a regular basis. Source Lists are similar to PSPC's Supply Arrangements.

Request for Proposals (RFPs) for Standing Offers and Source Lists are posted on [buyandsell](#) and [MERX](#) websites.

Typical **Standing Offers** and **Source Lists** are for services such as:

- architecture and engineering services
- environmental engineering and services
- designated substance survey services

For more information on these procurement methods see *Guide 3A: Federal Procurement Opportunities: Public Services and Procurement Canada*.

SECURITY CLEARANCE



Some Defence Construction Canada projects require suppliers to get a security clearance. This is because some projects require access to classified or protected information. Security screening ensures that only trusted organizations and individuals gain access to this protected information.

There are different levels of security clearances. The security clearance level will be identified in the solicitation document.

The security clearance level required for many DCC projects is a Designated Organization Screening (DOS).

There are no costs to obtain a DOS.



WHEN TO OBTAIN A SECURITY CLEARANCE

To bid on a project with a security clearance requirement, the supplier must hold a valid clearance at the required level. Therefore clearance needs to be obtained prior to the solicitation closing date.

HOW TO OBTAIN A SECURITY CLEARANCE

Suppliers need to be sponsored to obtain a security screening.

DCC is an approved Federal Government source that may sponsor suppliers to obtain a security screening issued by PSPC's Contract Security Program. DCC will only sponsor suppliers bidding on DCC contracts.

For more information and resources on security clearances visit the [DCC website](#).



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QIKIQTAALUK CORPORATION
& Group of Companies

1-867-979-8400 | www.qcorp.ca



qbdc@qcorp.ca



867-979-8400



www.QBDCnunavut.ca