HELPING NUNAVUT INUIT ACCESS GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES

GREEN PROCUREMENT BASICS SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDE





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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.

Each series has four guides and are available in Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun, and English. This guide is supplementary to the first series.

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WHAT IS GREEN PROCUREMENT?

GREEN PROCUREMENT

means purchasing goods or services that have a reduced impact on the environment.

Examples of what may make a good or service green:

GOODS • Reduced packaging • Recycled packaging • Source art and craft material as local as possible • Min • Re wo

SERVICES • Use sustainable products • Minimize waste • Refrain from idling work vehicles

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA GREEN PROCUREMENT



As part of the federal government's commitment to protecting the environment, they have implemented a policy to include environmental considerations in their procurement processes.

This policy is called the **Policy on Green Procurement.** It requires that federal government buyers include green, or **environmentally preferable**, requirements in their solicitations for goods and services, such as:

- Stating the carbon footprint of a good or service
- Reducing the carbon footprint of a good or service
- Providing environmentally preferable packaging, such as no plastic
- Providing products made from recycled content
- Providing environmentally friendly disposal/ re-use plans

WHAT IS CARBON FOOTPRINT?

A measure of the amount of greenhouse gases that manufacturing a good or delivering a service adds to the atmosphere.



GREENHOUSE GASES are the gases in the atmosphere, such as carbon dioxide, emitted through human activities. Greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere trap heat and contribute to climate change such as rising temperatures.



ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE MANDATORY CRITERIA



There are some environmentally preferable criteria that buyers <u>must</u> include in solicitations. These are called **mandatory criteria** or **mandatory standards** under the Policy on Green Procurement.

At the time of publishing this guide, some of these mandatory criteria are optional or do not apply to solicitations in Nunavut. However, it is a good idea to be aware of these as some buyers may include them or they may be applicable in Nunavut in the future.



For more information on solicitations, buyers and suppliers, see *Guide 1: Procurement Basics*

Mandatory environmentally preferable criteria in solicitations includes:



Disclosing greenhouse gas emissions for procurements over \$25 million



Environmentally preferable packaging to reduce plastic waste



Stating and reducing the carbon footprint of major construction projects



Listing green criteria for specific standing offers and supply arrangements such as for commercial tires, communication equipment, furniture for workspaces, passenger motor vehicles, and office supplies

ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE REQUIREMENTS IN SOLICITATIONS

If the good or service does not have a mandatory criteria, the buyer may still decide to include environmentally preferrable requirements in the solicitation.

Environmentally preferrable requirements that may be included in solicitations can be over the life-cycle of the good or service.



The life-cycle of a good or service includes:

- The manufacturing of a good or the goods used in a service
- The use of a good or delivery of a service
- The disposal of goods or products used in a service

Some examples of environmentally preferrable requirements throughout the life-cycle could include:



SUPPLIERS' ROLE IN GREEN PROCUREMENT



Inuit business suppliers play a key role in providing environmentally preferable goods and services to the federal government.

The Government of Canada expects suppliers to familiarize themselves with the Policy on Green Procurement.



As a supplier, you are expected to:

- 1. Understand key environmental issues associated with your goods and services
- 2. Demonstrate the environmental features of your goods and services
- 3. Share information on your business's environmental policies and practices
- 4. Include environmental specifications and evaluation criteria from the solicitation documents in bid your submission

Understand the key environmental issues with your goods or services

Assess all aspects of your goods' or services' lifecycle:

- Where can you recycle, remanufacture, reduce or reuse throughout the lifecycle?
- How can you reduce transportation requirements?
- Where can you reduce inputs such as energy, material, and water?
- Where can you reduce outputs such as emissions, pollutants, and waste into the air, water and land?



2 Demonstrate the environmental features of your goods and services

All goods and services involve environmental impacts. If your goods and services are environmentally preferred to others on the market, be sure to highlight this. On your bid submission include:



That you understand the life-cycle impacts of your goods and services



The features of your goods and services that make it environmentally friendly from a life-cycle perspective



The applicable third-party certifications or environmental product declarations of your goods and services (eg: energy star)

3 Share information on your business's environmental policies and practices

When preparing a bid submission, provide information on any of your business's environmental programs, even if it is not a mandatory requirement of the solicitation.

For example, environmental practices within your daily business operations may focus on:



EFFICIENT MANUFACTURING PROCESSES



WASTE PROGRAMS



MATERIAL SUBSTITUTION AND SOURCING LOCALLY



CARBON-NEUTRAL PROGRAMS



What is Carbon Neutral?

A carbon neutral good or service makes no net release of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere. This is often achieved through offsetting emissions by activities like planting trees.

4 In your bid submission, be sure to show how your company complies with the environmental specifications and evaluation criteria listed in the solicitation documents

Government of Canada bid solicitations are increasingly more inclusive of environmentally preferable considerations such as:



- Evaluation criteria (either mandatory or point-rated) that are related to the environment
- Contractual requirements related to the environment

Be sure to demonstrate compliance with all environmental criteria and specifications listed within the solicitation documents.

Other tips on how to make your business more green

- Encourage company energy saving practices such as powering down computers at night.
- Implement no idling practices.
- Use green cleaning products.
- Use energy efficient products such as LED lighting and fuel-efficient vehicles.
- Use refurbished parts or products where possible.
- Purchase goods with longer lifespans and that are easy to repair. This will reduce waste, and likely save your business money in the long-run.
- Consolidate and optimize delivery routes.



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