



Canada's public procurement control framework



Public Procurement Principle: **Accountability**



Procurement Stage: **Tendering, Post-award**



Audience: **Policy maker, Procuring entity**

Description

In Canada all procurements in excess of CAD 2 million must be reviewed for potential regional and industrial benefits. Departmental short-range acquisition plans cover all goods and service contracts over CAD 2 million. The review process involves a Procurement Strategy Committee (PSC) and related review committees. The Peer Review Committee (PRC) will review departmental plans, identify individual or aggregated procurements requiring review, and provide general guidelines to the review committees. The review committees will review and recommend procurement strategies for individual procurements or groups of procurements, normally only for those exceeding CAD 20 million, in accordance with the general direction from the PSC.

In the Acquisitions Programme the Post Contract Award Review Programme takes a sample of closed (completed) procurements and examines the files for professional and legal compliance. The review is frequent and operational as opposed to the large-scale Programme Evaluation performed by the PSPC Office of Audit and Evaluation.

The Office of the Auditor General (OAG) in Canada performs performance audits and reviews of the government (i.e. legislative auditing). The performance audits are in addition to assurance engagements (conventional financial audit) such as those related to public accounts that include the audited consolidated financial statements for the Government of Canada. The work of the OAG entails the independence to review and investigate actions of the government (including procurement activities) and report back to the legislature and the public. Beyond investigation and reporting, the OAG has no other powers and cannot compel any actions on the part of government or anyone else. The



OAG is acknowledged to be very influential in producing government action to address problems.

Source: OECD (2019), [Reforming Public Procurement: Progress in Implementing the 2015 OECD Recommendation](#), OECD Publishing, Paris

