

The Way Forward

News



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OSME expands across Canada

As part of the *Federal Accountability Act* and Action Plan, PWGSC is expanding the Office of Small and Medium Enterprise (OSME), offering Regional Offices in Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, Edmonton and Vancouver, and an additional office in Ottawa.

The expansion is part of PWGSC's commitment to help smaller firms do business with the federal government and will provide cross-country support to SMEs.

The new Regional OSME Offices will provide information, counselling and training services and collaborate with SMEs to improve procurement policies and best practices.

The Regional Offices will work to identify and reduce barriers to competition in the procurement system. This work will reduce the overall cost of procurement and increase the accountability of the procurement system.

PWGSC's outreach to the SME community is not new. In Fall 2005, PWGSC conducted cross-country consultations with small businesses to identify their concerns, gain insights on possible and perceived impacts of changes to procurement and foster recommendations.

The results of PWGSC's Fall 2005 cross-country SME consultations can be reviewed at:
www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/acquisitions/text/sme/industry-e.html

SMEs with questions about procurement can visit Business Access Canada for more information: www.contractsCanada.gc.ca/en



Translation Bureau lowers rates

Departments and agencies calling on the Translation Bureau to provide world-class translation, interpretation and terminology services now have even more reason to do so.

As of April 1, 2006, the Translation Bureau is offering a 17 percent price reduction for the translation of general documents. Reducing its operational costs, the Bureau

was able to transfer these savings to its clients.

The Translation Bureau is one of the largest linguistic service providers in the world, serving federal, provincial, territorial and municipal governments across Canada as well as international organizations.

For more information, visit the Translation Bureau Web site at: <http://translationbureau.gc.ca>



What's Coming

Moving towards IT Shared Services

As part of its whole-of-government approach to modernizing IT across government, PWGSC has launched the Identification, Qualification, Service Transfer and Transformation (IQTT) process, as one of its growth strategies to build an IT Shared Services Organization. The IQTT process allows PWGSC to consult with selected departments and agencies, identify opportunities, analyze risk and map out strategies to move them to an IT shared services environment.

To kick-start this initiative, seven departments and agencies,

including PWGSC, have collectively embarked on this four-step process that will eventually see the transfer of specific IT services, currently administered by each individual department or agency, to a single IT Shared Services environment.

PWGSC's IT Shared Services initiative will improve efficiency, provide consistent levels of service and ensure greater accountability of IT across government.

For more information on the IQTT process, contact Paul Hession by email at Paul.Hession@pwgsc.gc.ca, or by phone at (819) 956-0226.

Tracking procurement savings

PWGSC's Value Management Office (VMO) is working to measure and report on the value of government-wide acquisitions using a rigorous and consistent approach across government.

The Government Procurement Index, developed by VMO, is part of that approach. The Index allows VMO to track changes in commodity prices paid by departments and agencies over time and compare price differences to market influences. The tool will help PWGSC create

spending strategies to achieve greater savings based on market activity and will allow for clearer measurement of government procurement.

Integrity is a priority for the VMO. They are monitored and advised by an independent review body and participate in the Interdepartmental Directors General Working Group on Performance Management.

For more information, contact Mark Seely by email at: Mark.Seely@pwgsc.gc.ca or by phone at (819) 956-0299.

PWGSC leads green buildings initiative

PWGSC continues to be the driving force behind the “green” Government of Canada buildings set for inauguration across the country. In developing these buildings, PWGSC is using the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold standard — a rating system recognizing buildings that incorporate high performance design, construction and operational practices with reduced environmental impacts.

New buildings on the forefront of sustainable design include:

Vancouver’s 401 Burrard Street was designed to enhance tenant comfort while minimizing economic and environmental costs. With state-of-the-art electrical, mechanical, heating and ventilation systems, 401 Burrard is expected to receive a LEED Gold rating in the Existing Building category.

Regina’s 1783 Hamilton Street is seeking the LEED certification at the Silver rating level. Featuring completely new energy-efficient mechanical and electrical systems, the building will also offer an innovative and environmentally responsible exterior.

740 Bel-Air in Montreal was reconstructed to save energy by using natural, renewable resources. It also uses geot-

hermal and solar energy in its heating and air-conditioning systems, high performance window design and placement, and collects rainwater for use in toilets and ground maintenance.

Yellowknife’s Greenstone Building will be the first North of 60 LEED-Canada-Gold-standard-certified office building. With solar panels expected to produce 33.5 kilowatts of energy, reducing the building’s electrical demand by 5 percent, Greenstone will offer the highest proportion of photovoltaic power supplied within a Canadian public building.

Charlottetown’s Jean Canfield Building will be the most environmentally friendly building ever constructed by PWGSC. Its many green features include a reflective roof, use of natural light and shade to moderate temperature, and the recycling of rainwater to reduce water consumption.

For more information, contact Dan Del Villano at (250) 363-3834 or by email at Dan.DelVillano@pwgsc.gc.ca for Pacific Region, Anne LeBourdais at (514) 496-3641 or by email at Anne.LeBourdais@pwgsc.gc.ca for Quebec Region, Anne Pratt at (780) 497-3619 or by email at Anne.Pratt@pwgsc.gc.ca for Western Region, and Darcy Truen at (902) 496-5551 or by email at Darcy.Truen@pwgsc.gc.ca for Atlantic Region.



Generating savings through smarter buying

PWGSC recently partnered with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) to reduce the number of distinct printer models, promote the principles of sustainable development and generate savings of 43 percent.

Taking AAFC from 480 distinct printer models down to selected ENERGYSTAR ranked devices, PWGSC used a Request for Volume Discount (RVD) and worked with a single supplier to secure four printer models department-wide.

By standardizing printers across the department, savings were achieved through bulk purchasing and lowered administrative costs. Additional savings will be achieved on maintenance costs as service technicians will only be required to support four models.

As an added feature each printer was defaulted to print double-sided documents, increasing energy conservation and saving paper.

For more information, contact PWGSC's Linda Jellicoe by email at: Linda.Jellicoe@pwgsc.gc.ca or by phone at (604) 775-7697.

Progress in commodity management

PWGSC is making significant progress on the commodity management front and is working with departments and agencies to strengthen the government's procurement process. Through Strategic Sourcing Teams and interdepartmental Commodity Teams, PWGSC is analyzing specific commodity categories, researching markets, developing purchase strategies and putting plans into action.

For example, in the category of freight and courier

services, PWGSC has implemented Freight Rate Information Shipper's Base and E-form Entry (e-FRISBEE), a service that helps departments and agencies rate and shop for courier and freight services and then place an order. This web-based version is designed to serve a large client base, including departmental mailrooms. Through consolidate purchasing and administrative savings, departments can expect significant cost savings over time.

For more information, contact Daniel Paquet via email at: Daniel.Paquet@pwgsc.gc.ca or by phone at (819) 956-3885.



The Way Forward News

The Way Forward News is published periodically to inform other GC departments and agencies about the changes and progress being made to procurement and other changes to services provided by PWGSC. We encourage you to pass on this information to those who may be interested. An online version of this newsletter, containing direct links to more information on the issues covered, can be found at: <http://www.pwgsc.gc.ca/b2k5/newsletter/text/news-e.html>

To contact us or to receive copies of this newsletter, please e-mail: questions@pwgsc.gc.ca

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