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Alberta Purchasing Connection

Introduction

- The Government of Alberta is host to a website called the Alberta Purchasing Connection (APC) that is being used to advertise tender notices from most provincial jurisdictions, including those from Manitoba's electronic tendering system.
- The information on the APC will be summary information only on Manitoba tenders and suppliers will still be required to download the official documents from Manitoba's electronic tendering service provider, MERX™.

Background

- A work plan developed by the Council of the Federation was endorsed by provincial premiers and included direction for procurement officials to review Procurement Chapter 5 of the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) with a view to develop a single electronic gateway where tender notices from all Provinces, Territories and the Government of Canada would be accessible to all Canadian suppliers.
- Manitoba agreed to participate in this project and has entered into agreements with the Government of Alberta and MERX™, Manitoba's current service provider. The agreements will result in MERX™ electronically transferring Manitoba tender notices to the APC website where they can be accessed online by all Canadian suppliers.
 - Only tender notices from Manitoba Government departments will be posted on APC at the present time.
 - Tender notices posted to MERX™ by the Manitoba MASH sector (municipalities & municipal organizations, academic & publicly-funded school boards and health & social service entities) will not be posted to the APC.
- Jurisdictions currently sharing their tender notice information on the APC include: Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, and Saskatchewan.
 - Jurisdictions that do not presently post tender notices to the APC include the Northwest Territories, Yukon, and the Government of Canada.

Impact

- Manitoba departments will not be required to make any changes to their processes but need to be aware that public information on Manitoba tenders will now be available on two separate websites:
 - MERX™: <http://www.merx.com>
 - APC: <http://www.purchasingconnection.ca/>
- Manitoba tender notice information appearing on the APC commenced in 2010.
- Posting of Manitoba tender notice information to APC will be done on a nightly basis by MERX™ from data received in their system via the SAP feed and any information directly posted to the MERX™ website.

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- The tender notice information that will appear on the APC will be summary information only and not contain full tender details. Vendors who search the APC for tender opportunities will be presented with summary information on the tender and will then be directed electronically to the MERX™ website which provides further information on the tenders and may then download documents in the usual manner from MERX™.
 - Tender information acquired on the APC by vendors cannot be used for bid submission to Manitoba. Only tenders downloaded from MERX™ will be considered legal bids and accepted by Manitoba.
- Departments who may want to see the tender notice information that will be viewed by suppliers may log onto the [APC web site](#) and select the “**I am a Vendor**” icon.

Inquiries

General Inquiries

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