

## **Manitoba Conservation – Aboriginal Procurement Initiative**

The Government of the Province of Manitoba, as part of its commitment to implementation of The Sustainable Development Act, has adopted Sustainable Procurement Guidelines. Included within those Guidelines is a specific Aboriginal Procurement component.

Manitoba Conservation is committed to the implementation of the Government's Aboriginal Procurement guideline, and, to that end, has developed and is implementing a number of specific procurement initiatives.

The Department's Aboriginal Procurement Initiative is comprised of the following specific components/actions:

- Consulting Services – Aboriginal consulting sources will be given exclusive access to certain departmental consultant requirements – where appropriate to do so, through a competitive process.
- Departmental Equipment Rental/Related Labour – “southern” Manitoba – the Department has set a goal of 10% of such work being awarded to Aboriginal suppliers (subject to availability, meeting price, quality, capability, the competitive bidding process).
- Departmental Equipment Rental/Related Labour – “northern” Manitoba – the Department has set a goal of 50% of such work being awarded to Aboriginal suppliers (subject to availability, meeting price, quality, capability, the competitive bidding process).
- Materials/Supplies Acquisition – while much of the Department's material/supply needs will continue to be filled via the bidding process administered through the Procurement Services Branch, that Branch will be requested to seek out Aboriginal suppliers whenever and wherever possible. Where such acquisitions occur by way of Field Purchase Orders or Procurement Card, Aboriginal suppliers will be “actively solicited” as a source of supply (subject to availability, meeting price, quality, the competitive bidding process).
- Departmental Construction Contracts – where possible, such contracts shall include, at a minimum, a 10% set-aside for Aboriginal sub-contractors/labour. As well, where possible/feasible, large departmental contracts will be broken down into a number of smaller contracts to support Aboriginal business delivery capabilities/capacities.
- Departmental Special Services Contracts – the Department will be identifying and setting aside, for contracting exclusively with Aboriginal firms, certain

specific work – examples might include seedling planting, wildlife/related survey work, cone picking, forest inventory components, etc..

- The Department will be utilizing an “active solicitation” process to ensure that Aboriginal suppliers, contractors are aware that such work is available, and to encourage Aboriginal supplier bids for such work. As a general rule, the Department will not be using Price Premiums (i.e. paying a premium price above that which would normally paid for the contracted work/services) respecting the award of its contracts.