

## Procurement Policy Review

Tamba Lamin May 5, 2025

# Background

- Rapidly evolving geo-political and trade challenges
- Requests from Council to review policy and consider the impact of "Buy Canadian" preference
- Staff reviewed 3 major policy components:
  - Procurement Framework
  - Policy Thresholds
  - Buy Canadian Options



#### **Procurement Framework**

#### **Best Value Procurement:**

- The best value procurement framework is designed to ensure an open, transparent, and competitive procurement process that prioritizes minimizing the total cost of ownership. Although it may require more resources upfront, this approach is particularly advantageous for municipalities.
- It enables the development of tailored solutions, fosters innovation, and emphasizes long-term cost-effectiveness and performance. The best value procurement framework ensures that public investments deliver maximum value and benefit to the community over time.



## **Policy Thresholds**

Trade Agreement	Procurement Type	Threshold
NWPTA (BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba)	Goods	\$75,000
	Services	\$75,000
	Construction	\$200,000
CFTA/AIT (Canada)	Goods	\$121,200
	Services	\$121,200
	Construction	\$302,900
CETA/TCA (EU,UK)	Goods	\$366,800
	Services	\$366,800
	Construction	\$9,100,000

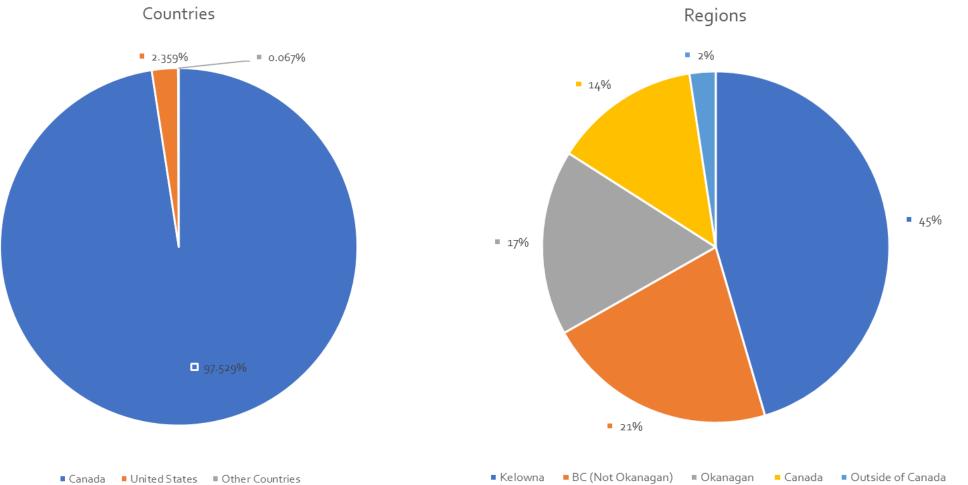


# **Buy Canadian Analysis**

- The City procures most of its products and services from Canadian firms
- Limited opportunity for increasing procurement for Canadian companies
- Specialized software and equipment does not have local alternatives
- Prioritizing local or Canadian suppliers for purchase above specified dollar thresholds would contravene interprovincial and international trade agreements. Breaching these agreements carries risk.









# **Buy Canadian Options**

- Option 1: No change to Corporate Policy
- Option 2: Exclude US Suppliers from bidding opportunities
- **Option 3:** Amend Corporate Policy to add local and Canadian preference for purchases below the interprovincial and international trade agreement thresholds



### Recommendation

#### Option 1: No Changes to the Corporate Financial Policy FIN-016

- Best Value framework continues to deliver value & Policy thresholds are appropriate.
- The current policy supports local and Canadian suppliers while ensuring compliance with trade agreements
- Existing purchases from non-Canadian suppliers are already limited to specialized equipment or software.
- While further efforts could be taken, staff believe that additional restriction via policy amendment is not advisable given identified risk of non-compliance and limited opportunity.



