

159 Cedar Street  
7th Floor  
Sudbury ON P3E 6A5

159 rue Cedar  
7e étage  
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April 16, 2025

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Executive Directors  
MCCSS Transfer Payment Recipients

**FROM:** Sandra Russell, Director - North Region  
Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

**SUBJECT:** **New Procurement Restriction Policy to Restrict Procurement from U.S. Businesses – Effective Immediately**

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I am writing to inform you about the new Procurement Restriction Policy (U.S. Businesses), part of Ontario's response to the tariffs imposed on Canada by the U.S. This policy restricts U.S. businesses from accessing public sector procurements in Ontario by restricting public sector buyers from procuring from U.S. businesses.

The new policy is currently in effect for Ontario government entities and for designated Broader Public Sector (BPS) organizations.

This policy is available on [Ontario.ca](https://www.ontario.ca). We encourage you and your staff to also visit <https://www.supplyontario.ca/> for more information. You may also contact Supply Ontario at [doingbusiness@supplyontario.ca](mailto:doingbusiness@supplyontario.ca).

To assist with implementation, please read the [Procurement Restriction Policy \(U.S.\) – A Guide for Public Sector Buyers](#) and [Procurement Restriction Policy \(U.S.\) – FAQ](#).

Existing procurement direction in the BPS Procurement Directive continues to apply, including rules to support the Building Ontario Businesses Initiative (BOBI) and the Interim Measures.

The policy includes a definition of a U.S. business (see under “Application and Scope”), and to ensure critical goods and services can still be obtained, the policy allows procurement from U.S. businesses in very limited situations: where the U.S. business is the only viable source, and the procurement cannot be delayed (e.g. risks to public health and safety, etc.) Both criteria must be met for an exception to the policy.

Please contact your Program Supervisor should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Sandra Russell  
Director, North Region