



Infrastructure Technical Resources Newsletter

August 20th, 2021 – Volume 20

**** Important update ****

IMPLEMENTATION OF DIGITAL AUTHENTICATION FOR ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING DOCUMENTS

Infrastructure is gradually moving towards electronic submission of all documents with digital authentication. The authentication of architectural and engineering documents submitted by Consultants will be accepted to Infrastructure under the following timelines:

- Before January 01, 2022, Consultants may choose to submit architectural and engineering sealed documents to Infrastructure using the current approach or submit in electronic format with digital authentication.
- Starting January 01, 2022, Consultants are required to submit all architectural and engineering sealed documents to Infrastructure only in electronic format with digital authentication.

More information can be found at Alberta Infrastructure Standards for Consultant Deliverables (<https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/tr/tr-consultant-deliverables.pdf>)

Connect with Procurement:

Suite 2100, 6950 113 Street NW

Edmonton, Alberta T6H 5V7

Email: askprocurement@gov.ab.ca

**** Important update ****

Vendor Performance Management Program Continuous Improvements

Alberta Infrastructure's Vendor Performance Management (VPM) Program has been operational over a year and a half. As part of the commitment to evaluating and continuously improving the program, Alberta Infrastructure has identified improvements based on feedback from stakeholders during the course of the VPM Program's use.

The following continuous improvement components have been adjusted to increase the VPM Program's effectiveness:

- Evaluation Frequency (Section 6.1)
 - o Adjust the performance evaluation frequency to only require one evaluation for shorter duration contract less than one year, leaving discretion for an optional interim evaluation.
- OVPR Formula (Section 7)
 - o Adjust the current formula to properly reflect a weighted average, taking into account the sample size within the three-year rolling average where the current year is given the most weight.
 - o This affects a very small number of vendor's current OVPRs. You will You will be contacted directly if this change impacts your current OVPR value.
- Related Parties (Sections 5.1, 10.4 and Appendix A)
 - o Implement 'Related Parties' improvement by adding a definition in the VPM Program document and requesting that vendors complete a Relationship Disclosure to be included in the procurement submission requirements. Procurement will compare the related parties declared to the Suspended Vendor list during procurement evaluation.
- Program Application
 - o Clarification on the application of the program in certain circumstances. These include clarity on existing contracts (Section 3.3.3), out of scope (Section 3.3.4), joint ventures and partnerships (Section 5.4), acquisitions (Section 5.5), amalgamations (Section 5.6), and suspended or terminated contracts (Sections 6.6 and 6.7).
- Minor administrative edits for clarity, and a new cover page design

Alberta Infrastructure also identified program components that require further exploration and collaboration with industry experts and stakeholders to develop and implement, this includes:

- Scoring Clarity
 - o Develop a clearer and more detailed scoring rubric.
- OVPR Categorization
 - o Further explore the application of categorization for Infrastructure projects/contracts.

The amended VPM Program is available on Alberta Infrastructure's [website](#).

If you have any questions, please contact infras.vendorperformance@gov.ab.ca.

**** Important Information ****

COVID-19 info for Albertans

Actions to protect Albertans and prevent the spread of novel coronavirus.

For more information on COVID-19, please visit the [website](https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx). (<https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>)

Links to Documents that have been added/updated since August 9th, 2021:

Forms/Contracts/Specifications:

- [**Guidelines and Standards, Owners and Supported**](#)
 - [Added one new document:](#)
 - Barrier-Free Design Guide, 2017
 - [Removed four outdated documents:](#)
 - Procedures leading to Project Design Excellence, August 2013
 - Architectural Design Guidelines for Schools, November 2012
 - High Performance Modular Classroom Controls Guidelines, July 2013
 - Construction Management - An Owner's Guide to Using the "Construction Management" Project Delivery System on Alberta Infrastructure Funded Projects, April 2001
- [**Health Facilities Capital Program manual**](#)
 - Appendix 4.5

TRC Quick Links:

Infrastructure Technical Resource Centre main page:
<https://www.alberta.ca/infrastructure-technical-resources.aspx>

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Any questions please contact Cam Munro at cam.munro@gov.ab.ca or 780-422-7456 or infras.trc@gov.ab.ca.

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