



VIA EMAIL
Our Ref: 130348

MAR 05 2009

BC Public Library Directors
BC Public Library Board Chairs
BC Library Trustees Association
BC Library Association

Re: BC-Alberta Trade, Investment, and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA)

As you may know, as of April 1, 2009, the TILMA will extend to boards of education, local governments, public libraries, publicly funded academic organizations, and health and social service entities.

The intent of TILMA is to make it easier for goods, business, investment and labour to move between BC and Alberta. It does this by requiring BC and Alberta to reconcile current rules and policies (and to refrain from enacting future rules and policies) that restrict trade, investment and labour mobility.

Procurement of goods, services and construction is a key area affected by TILMA. Public libraries are subject to a requirement to conduct non-discriminatory procurement and to avoid discriminating in favour of local goods and services. Note that while procurement levels for government ministries and departments will remain as identified in the original TILMA agreement: \$10,000 for goods, \$75,000 for services and \$100,000 for construction; levels applicable to public library boards will be: \$75,000 for goods, \$75,000 for services and \$200,000 for construction.

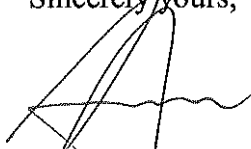
The attached bulletin from the Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Trade provides an overview of how TILMA affects board of education procurement.

If you have any questions concerning TILMA, please contact Guy Gensey, A/Director, Trade Initiatives, Ministry of Small Business, Technology and Economic Development, by telephone at 250-952-0453 or by email (guy.gensey@gov.bc.ca).

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Thank you in advance for your cooperation as we move forward towards the implementation phase of TILMA.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Gorman', written over a horizontal line.

James Gorman
Deputy Minister

pc: Guy Gensey, A/Director, Trade Initiatives, Ministry of Small Business,
Technology and Economic Development

Attachment