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MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 9, 2026

TO: Associate Deans Research/Research Liaison Officers

FROM: B. Mario Pinto, Vice-President (Research and International) 

RE: Tri-Agency funded purchases and Buy Canadian guidance

As part of recent updates to the [Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration](#), the Tri-Agencies have introduced new guidance related to the Government of Canada's Buy Canadian Policy.

As of April 1, 2026, researchers making purchases with Tri-Agency funds are expected to consider and, where appropriate, prioritize Canadian suppliers, services, materials, and equipment where Canadian options are available, cost-effective, and suitable for the research purpose.

To ensure compliance with the new guidelines, when making purchases with Tri-Agency funds, researchers and departments should follow the University of Manitoba's existing Procurement Services guidance regarding Canadian preference in purchasing activities: [Buy Canada Guidelines](#).

The agencies have clarified that researchers will not be expected to compromise scientific integrity, technical requirements, or project feasibility in applying this guidance. Where a non-Canadian supplier is selected despite Canadian options being available, the rationale for the decision (e.g., cost, suitability, availability, or research requirements) should be documented and retained with procurement files to demonstrate compliance and make records available for audit and review.

Questions regarding the UM's Buy Canada Guidelines, the TAGFA guidance and the procurement process for research may be directed to purchasing@umanitoba.ca.