

The Procurement Office

Procurement Law Office

Procurement Training Office



2019 Newsreel Trends

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About the Author

Paul Emanuelli is the General Counsel and Managing Director of the Procurement Office. He was recognized by *Who's Who Legal* as one of the top ten public procurement lawyers in the world. His portfolio includes advising on strategic governance in public purchasing and on negotiating high-profile major procurement projects. Paul has an extensive track record of public speaking, publishing and training. He is the author of *Government Procurement*, *Laws of Precision Drafting*, *Accelerating the Tendering Cycle*, *The Art of Tendering: A Global Due Diligence Guide*, and the *Global Public Procurement Newsletter*. Paul hosts a monthly webinar series and has trained and presented to thousands of procurement professionals from hundreds of institutions across North America through the Procurement Office and in collaboration with leading industry organizations including NIGP, SCMA, the University of the West Indies and Osgoode Hall Law School.

Top Newsreel Trends

Overview

News reports have long served as an early warning system for industry trends in public procurement. From international intrigues to the latest local tendering scandals, this presentation offers a global perspective on some of the most pressing trends impacting public procurement in 2019.

Top Newsreel Trends

Our Media Monitoring Team

The Procurement Office media monitoring team analyzes procurement-related news stories from around the world. We create daily top-ten lists to help you identify breaking industry trends and stream this information on Twitter, on our website newsreel feed, and in the trend summaries located on our Newsreel Blog. We also provide our subscribers with Monday morning updates of the biggest late-breaking news from around the world.

Top Newsreel Trends

A Deep Dive into Trend Analysis

For this year's Top Newsreel Trends feature, we reviewed over 1,700 stories from our daily top-ten countdowns and weekly newsreel summaries to determine this year's top stories and trends:

- ☐ Local Preference
- ☐ Conflict of Interest and Bias
- ☐ Bid Rigging, Collusion and Corruption
- ☐ Major Project Controversies

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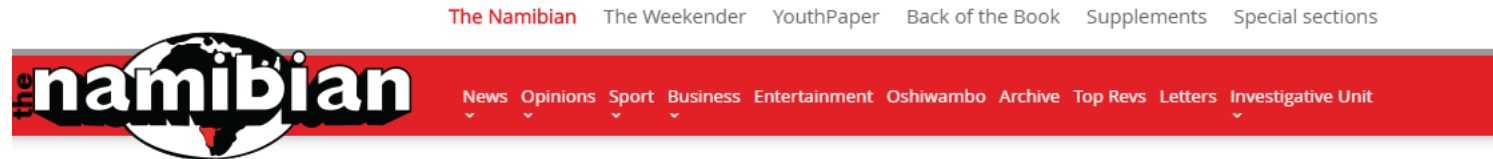
Procurement Training Office



Local Preference

Local Preference

Namibian Reforms to Promote Local Purchasing



Buying local will become law – Schlettwein

News - National | 2019-05-28

Page no: 1

A TIME will come when public enterprises will be required to buy certain goods and services from Namibian suppliers when the new regulations in the procurement law come into force.

This is part of the government's economic turnaround strategy aimed at enabling local participation in the economy and the enhancement of domestic productive capacity within the framework of the Procurement Act, said finance minister Calle Schlettwein last week.

Local Preference

Jamaica Revamps Procurement For Small Contractors



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New Public Procurement Regime to Take Effect in 2019/20

BUDGET 2019/2020

MARCH 8, 2019

WRITTEN BY: ALECIA SMITH

Minister of Finance and the Public Service, Dr. the Hon. Nigel Clarke, says the new public procurement regime will come into force in the new financial year, which begins April 1.

Dr. Clarke, who was opening the 2019/20 Budget Debate in the House of Representatives on Wednesday (March 7), explained that new regime will enhance the potential for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) to compete for larger shares of Government procurement contracts.

<https://jis.gov.jm/new-public-procurement-regime-to-take-effect-in-2019-20/>

Local Preference

Local Firms Cut Out of Scottish Reforms



Home News ▾ Jobs Sport ▾ Features ▾ What's on ▾ Letters Announcements ▾ Marketplace Archive ▾ Printing Services Education ▾

20th March

Procurement reforms have ‘little impact’ on Scotland’s small firms

By Press Association 2019

Reforms aimed at increasing the share of public sector contracts going to Scotland’s small businesses have had “little impact”, a new report has claimed.

Andrew McRae, policy chair for the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) in Scotland, said while there had been a “slew of laudable procurement reforms”, these had failed to increase the number of contracts going to smaller companies.

<https://www.countypress.co.uk/news/national/17515737.procurement-reforms-have-little-impact-on-scotlands-small-firms/>

Local Preference

Palmerston North Ponders Buy-Local Shortfall

stuff ≡

manawatu standard

Buy local campaign not as simple as it seems

Janine Rankin • 15:15, Aug 22 2019

Palmerston North city councillors have been shocked to learn the council does less than half of its spending with local businesses.

That could be about to change, with the adoption of something less catchy than the "buy local" policy councillors initially envisaged.

It will be a "local impact procurement" policy, which avoids unlawful discrimination against non-local firms, but allows the local effects of council choices for spending to be considered.

Council procurement manager Julie Pedley said defining what was local was more complicated than looking at a business's post code.

Local Preference

Alberta's IT Cuts Hurt Local Contractors

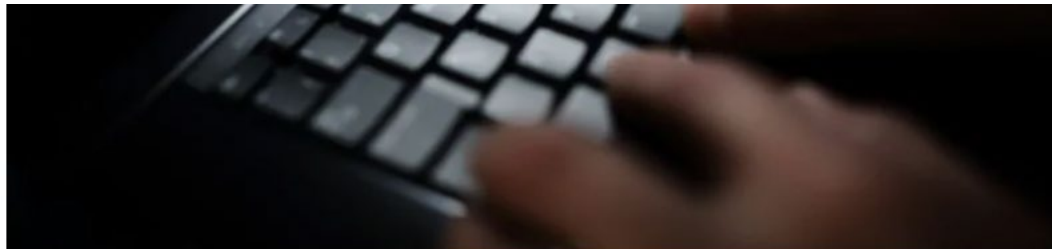
Calgary

'Systems are going to start going down' say IT contractors, as Alberta government stops renewing contracts

Information technology contractors predict service impacts, digital economy will suffer



[Sarah Rieger](#) · CBC News · Posted: Aug 27, 2019 5:15 AM MT | Last Updated: August 27



CBC News has spoken with four IT contractors who say they are concerned the Alberta government is moving to procure services from large companies located outside of the province. (Brian Jackson/Shutterstock)

Local Preference

Whitehorse Considers Local Preference Policy

North

Whitehorse council mulls proposal for local preference in awarding city contracts

One local business lost \$15K contract this year to B.C. competitor, whose bid was \$250 cheaper

[Dave Croft](#) · CBC News · Posted: Apr 26, 2019 7:00 AM CT | Last Updated: April 26

City officials in Whitehorse have come up a plan that would see preference for local businesses when awarding city contracts.

They presented their recommendations on Thursday, to council members at city hall.

Local Preference

Yukon Directs More Work to Local Contractors

North

Yukon unveils new policy for awarding government contracts

Territorial government spent \$345M last year procuring goods and services



[Nancy Thomson](#) · CBC News · Posted: Feb 16, 2019 9:00 AM CT | Last Updated: February 16

The Yukon government has announced changes to its rules for how it hires companies to deliver goods and services.

One of the major changes involves the definition of a Yukon business. For some government contracts, only Yukon businesses are allowed to bid.

Local Preference

Union Sues Toronto For Closed Shop Tendering



Hot Topics TIFF VIDEO CLASSIFIEDS CANNABIS OBITS JOBS THIS WEEK'S FLYERS

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LEVY: City council's closed-shop tendering decision subject of lawsuit

Sue-Ann Levy
More from Sue-Ann Levy

Published:
June 26, 2019

Updated:
June 26, 2019 8:39 PM EDT

A national labour union shut out by City Hall's closed tendering decision has launched a lawsuit against the city, claiming discrimination under the City of Toronto Act.

The Christian Labour Association of Canada (CLAC) contends in its suit — filed Wednesday in Ontario Superior Court — that by moving to “voluntary” invite one more union, the Labour International Union of North America (LIUNA), to bid on major construction projects, the city has granted that union a “privilege” not given to any other unions currently shut out from bidding on municipal jobs.

<https://torontosun.com/news/local-news/levy-city-councils-closed-shop-tendering-decision-subject-of-lawsuit>

Local Preference

Quebec Premier Promotes Local Preference in Train Tender

Canadian
MANUFACTURING Where it's made is where it's at



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Legault to force the Caisse to purchase REM trains made in Quebec

The Caisse, Quebec's pension fund operator, has a mandate to operate independently and free of political interference in its decisions

May 27, 2019

THE CANADIAN PRESS 
by Caroline Plante

MONTREAL—Premier Francois Legault says his government will force the Caisse to purchase trains made in Quebec as part of the extension of Montreal's Réseau Express Métropolitain light-rail system.

"It's certain. Whether in the form of the REM or tramways ... for sure we will require local content," he said Saturday at the Coalition Avenir Quebec's party convention on green issues in Montreal.

The Caisse, Quebec's pension fund operator, has a mandate to operate independently and free of political interference in its decisions.

<https://www.canadianmanufacturing.com/procurement/legault-to-force-the-caisse-to-purchase-rem-trains-made-in-quebec-233369/>

Local Preference

Prince Albert Reverses Local Preference to Avoid Lawsuit

PRINCE ALBERT DAILY HERALD

HOME NEWS ▾ SPORTS ▾ ARTS ▾ COMMUNITY ▾ OPINION ▾ SERVICES ▾



Herald file photo.

Council awards auction contract to McDougall to avoid possible litigation

BY JASON KERR - March 6, 2019

Prince Albert city council has awarded a city auction contract to an out-of-town firm after being cautioned that failure to do so would put the city at risk of a lawsuit.

<https://paherald.sk.ca/2019/03/06/council-awards-auction-contract-to-mcdougall-to-avoid-possible-litigation/>

Local Preference

US Doubles Down on China Sanctions

Business

Trump's 15% tariffs on \$112B in Chinese goods take effect

Over two-thirds of consumer goods imported from China to U.S. face higher taxes

The Associated Press · Posted: Sep 01, 2019 12:13 AM ET | Last Updated: September 1

The United States and China on Sunday put in place their latest tariff increases on each other's goods, potentially raising prices Americans pay for some clothes, shoes, sporting goods and other consumer items before the holiday shopping season.

President Donald Trump said U.S.-China trade talks were still on for September. "We'll see what happens," he told reporters as he returned to the White House from the Camp David presidential retreat. "But we can't allow China to rip us off anymore as a country."

Local Preference

“Buy American” Hammers Canadian Steel

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Trump's 'Buy America' Rules Are Harmful to Canada, But Could Have Been Avoided

Français

NEWS PROVIDED BY

United Steelworkers (USW) →

Jul 16, 2019, 17:47 ET

TORONTO, July 16, 2019 /CNW/ - Yesterday the Trump administration announced new 'Buy America' provisions that will restrict access by Canadian producers to the U.S. procurement market.

Donald Trump signed the executive order requiring that 75% of the value of components must be sourced in the U.S., an increase from 50%.

"Worse than that, the order demanded that **95%** of all steel and iron used in U.S. public procurement must exclude Canada and be sourced from the U.S.," pointed out Ken Neumann, United Steelworkers National Director.

<https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/trump-s-buy-america-rules-are-harmful-to-canada-but-could-have-been-avoided-843772679.html>

Local Preference

UK Pledges £4 Billion Brexit Plan to Back Steel



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UK readies \$4.6bn plan to back steel sector as Brexit looms

LONDON, Aug 18, 2019

The UK government plans to step up support to the country's steel industry, via procurement of steel for new infrastructure projects, identification of domestic market "opportunities" worth £3.8 billion (\$4.6 billion) annually, and helping businesses with high energy use to cut their bills, reported S&P Global Platts, citing the Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) statement.



http://tradeArabia.com/news/IND_357682.html

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Conflict of Interest and Bias

Conflict of Interest and Bias

Report Claims Rampant Russian Sole-Sourcing



CORRUPTION

17:39 / 27.02.2019 To russian version

Transparency told about billion-worth state contracts concluded without tender

In the new investigation Transparency International - Russia claims that the lion's share of government contracts in the country is concluded with Vladimir Putin's coterie. Moreover, the Russian legislation allows avoiding competitive procedures when choosing a contractor, the authors of the article note.

Employees of the anti-corruption organization have found out that state order performers in this case are appointed on the basis of secret acts that are signed personally by the President or Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev. According to Transparency International - Russia, in 2017 alone, non-competitive procurement amounted to 418 billion rubles (\$6.3 m). The country leaders signed at least 93 acts (decrees, resolutions or orders) on various kinds of purchases from a single supplier.

<https://en.crimerussia.com/corruption/transparency-told-about-billion-worth-state-contracts-concluded-without-tender/>

Conflict of Interest and Bias

Putin-Connected Oligarch Wins Anti-Corruption Contract



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RUSSIA

January 12, 2019 09:50
GMT

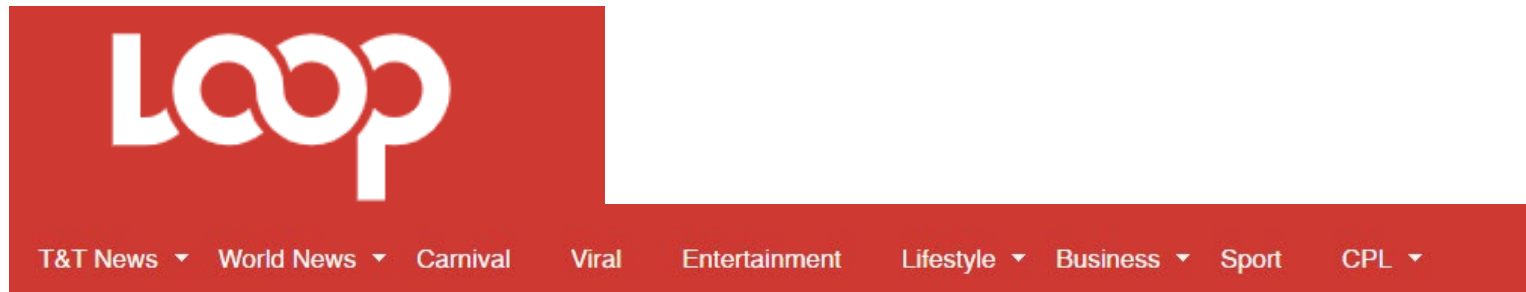
Company Of Putin-Connected Oligarch Rotenberg Wins State Anticorruption Tender

A company owned by Russian billionaire oligarch Arkady Rotenberg has been awarded a state grant to conduct training on civil-society development and combating corruption.

<https://www.rferl.org/a/company-of-putin-connected-oligarch-rotenberg-wins-state-anticorruption-tender/29705966.html>

Conflict of Interest and Bias

Trinidad Senator Wins Millions in Government Deals



Millions in contracts awarded to Gov't Senator, Kamla wants answers

DARLISA GHOURALAL

CREATED : 19 AUGUST 2019

POLITICS

Prime Minister Dr Keith Rowley has questions to answer on the award of Government contracts to Senator Foster Cummings.

This, as Cummings, who was removed as a Senator to make way for the appointment of Donna Cox as Minister of Communications and subsequently reappointed to the Senate following Garvin Simonette's resignation over five-year-old DUI charges against him in the United States, came under scrutiny at the United National Congress (UNC) National Congress at the Couva South Multi-Purpose Complex in Couva on Sunday.

Conflict of Interest and Bias

New Zealand Councillor Denies Bias in Recycling Bids

stuff ≡

national

Invercargill city councillor Alex Crackett under scrutiny in recycling tender drama

Evan Harding • 18:15, Aug 25 2019

An Invercargill city councillor involved in mediation talks to resolve the region's recycling tender has been accused of bias against current provider Southland disAbility Enterprises [SDE], but she rejects the claims.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/115266487/invercargill-city-councillor-alex-crackett-under-scrutiny-in-recycling-tender-drama>

Conflict of Interest and Bias

Utah Lawmaker Accused of Self-Dealing

The Salt Lake Tribune

Ken Ivory is going to work for a consulting firm he recently secured thousands of state dollars to hire



By Bethany Rodgers • Published: August 21
Updated: August 22, 2019

Ken Ivory has exited his Utah House seat to take an executive level job at a Silicon Slopes company that he helped hire for a special legislative project to appraise Utah's public lands — an assignment that has evolved into a \$700,000 state contract for the firm.

<https://www.sltrib.com/news/politics/2019/08/22/ken-ivory-is-going-work/>

Conflict of Interest and Bias

Louisiana Flood Recovery Deal Scrapped Due to Conflicts



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News

Louisiana Flood Recovery Deal Scrapped, Amid Conflict Claims

Louisiana has voided a planned flood recovery contract intended to help victims of the 2016 floods with home rebuilding work or buyouts.

By Associated Press, Wire Service Content May 22, 2019, at 2:44 p.m.

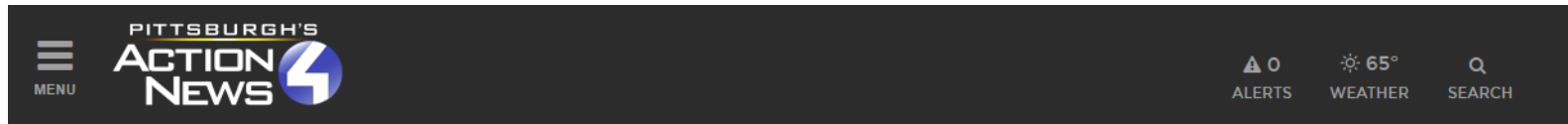
BY MELINDA DESLATTE, Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Louisiana has voided a planned flood recovery contract intended to help victims of the 2016 floods with home rebuilding work or buyouts.

Louisiana's chief procurement officer Paula Tregre says key staff involved in the deal overseen by Gov. John Bel Edwards' administration shouldn't participate because they have a conflict of interest.

Conflict of Interest and Bias

Pennsylvania Auditor Investigates Vendor-Paid Junket



State auditor general launches investigation into Pittsburgh Public Schools Cuba trip

Eugene DePasquale announced the new inquiry on Monday



Beau Berman
Reporter

Updated: 8:04 AM EDT May 21, 2019

PITTSBURGH — Pennsylvania Auditor General Eugene DePasquale is asking Pittsburgh Public Schools for details of travel by district officials and contracts that were awarded without seeking bids.

DePasquale said he is concerned by recent reports that several district administrators traveled to Cuba in April on a vendor's tab.

“I want to know if the reported travel was in line with district policies and state ethics rules,” DePasquale said. “More importantly, I want to know how this trip, and any others, benefited students in Pittsburgh classrooms.”

<https://www.wtae.com/article/state-auditor-general-launches-investigation-into-pittsburgh-public-schools-cuba-trip/27535881>

Conflict of Interest and Bias

Critics Claim Politics Behind DC Sole-Source Deal

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

D.C. Politics

\$215 million D.C. sports gambling contract includes politically connected subcontractors

By **Fenit Nirappil**

June 11

D.C. officials this week proposed a \$215 million [sole-source contract](#) to manage online sports gambling and the lottery, a deal that would benefit several politically connected individuals as well as executives of a company that the city ousted from running a homeless shelter.

The D.C. Council and Mayor Muriel E. Bowser (D) authorized city officials to [suspend procurement rules](#) while awarding a lucrative contract to the Greek gaming company Intralot. They said it was necessary to launch a sports-betting mobile app quickly to maximize tax revenue.

Conflict of Interest and Bias

Pentagon Probes Conflict Claims in Cloud Competition

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Amazon, Microsoft war cloud race: Pentagon watchdog looking into potential 'misconduct'

By **Brittany De Lea** | Published August 13, 2019 |

The Pentagon's Office of the Inspector General on Tuesday released information about its review of the lucrative Department of Defense Joint Enterprise Defense Infrastructure (JEDI) cloud contract, which includes allegations of conflicts of interest and potential misconduct.

A spokeswoman from the office confirmed in a statement that a “multidisciplinary team of auditors, investigators, and attorneys” are looking to how the DoD has handled the JEDI acquisition – including everything from how it developed requirements to the request for proposal process.

Conflict of Interest and Bias

Liberals Accused of Buying Votes With \$3B Sole-Source

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THE CANADIAN PRESS
LEE BERTHAUME

August 16, 2019
2:42 PM EDT

🕒 Last Updated
August 16, 2019
5:21 PM EDT

Liberals unveil \$3B sole-source deal for armoured vehicles ahead of election

OTTAWA — The federal Liberal government has unveiled plans to award a sole-source contract for hundreds of light armoured vehicles to General Dynamics Land Systems-Canada, while also promising the London, Ont., company a \$650-million loan.

The surprise deal and loan were announced by Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan on Friday, only weeks before the federal election, sparking Conservative allegations the Liberals were trying to buy votes and distract from the SNC-Lavalin affair.

<https://business.financialpost.com/pmn/business-pmn/liberals-unveil-3b-sole-source-deal-for-armoured-vehicles-ahead-of-election>

Conflict of Interest and Bias

Former MP Denies Inside Advantage in Collingwood Inquiry



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Ex-MP made \$1M on Ontario town deals while sister was mayor, inquiry reveals

OPP still investigating alleged wrongdoing in Collingwood utility, construction deals



[Dave Seglins](#) · CBC News · Posted: Apr 15, 2019 5:42 PM ET | Last Updated: April 16

Former Ontario Liberal MP, the Hon. Paul Bonwick, earned more than \$1 million in consultant's fees on a series of backroom deals involving public money while his sister was a local mayor, a judicial inquiry has revealed.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/collingwood-consulting-fees-powerstream-paul-bonwick-mayor-sandra-cooper-1.5098968>

Conflict of Interest and Bias

Saskatchewan Auditor Slams eHealth Improprieties



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Saskatchewan

Sask. auditor chastises eHealth for sole-sourced contracts and vendor-sponsored trips

Auditor recommends eHealth strengthen its conflict of interest policies



[Geoff Leo](#) · CBC News · Posted: Jun 06, 2019 9:31 AM CT | Last Updated: June 6

Saskatchewan's provincial auditor Judy Ferguson says she found eight instances where eHealth employees inappropriately went on trips sponsored by vendors and 10 cases where contracts were sole-source without written justification.

Conflict of Interest and Bias

Former NWT Staff Getting Sole-Source Awards



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North

Former N.W.T. government workers continue to get contracts without competing for them

Former bureaucrats win sole-source contracts, gov't cites previous experience as among reasons why

[Richard Gleeson](#) · CBC News · Posted: May 01, 2019 5:00 AM CT | Last Updated: May 1

Working for the Northwest Territories government continues to be profitable for some senior bureaucrats after they leave government.

A group of former employees of the territorial government continues to win government contracts without even having to compete for them, according to contracting data for last year.

Conflict of Interest and Bias

Lobby Group Mobilizes to Direct Ship Deals to Quebec



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Business group wants National Shipbuilding Strategy reopened for Quebec shipyard

Association puts pressure on Liberals to direct new projects to Davie yard



[Murray Brewster](#) · CBC News · Posted: Jan 16, 2019 4:00 AM ET | Last Updated: January 16

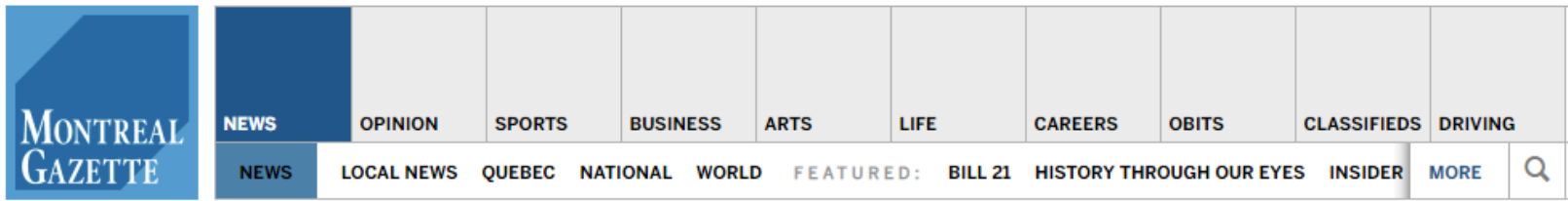
A Quebec-based business association claiming to represent over 1,000 companies inside and outside the province is launching a high-profile campaign to convince the Liberal government to reopen the oft-maligned National Shipbuilding Strategy.

The group is demanding the federal government include the Davie shipyard, in Levis, Que., in the policy and plans to make it a major issue in the October federal election.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/national-shipbuilding-strategy-reopen-1.4979592>

Conflict of Interest and Bias

Shipyard Tender Specs Challenged for Bias

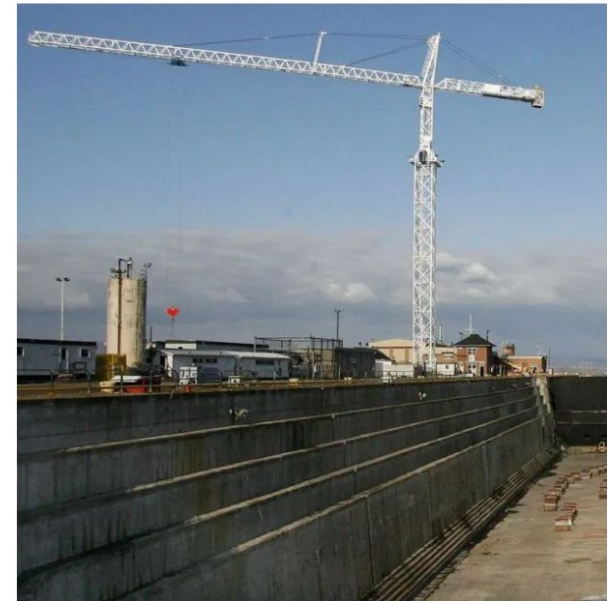


Feds amend shipyard search following complaint about bias toward Quebec's Davie

Heddie Marine of Hamilton alleged several of the government's requirements were not legitimate or reasonable.

THE CANADIAN PRESS Updated: August 26, 2019

OTTAWA — The federal government has amended its search for a third shipyard in line for potentially billions of dollars in work following allegations of bias for Quebec's Chantier Davie yard, but is standing firm in several other areas.



Conflict of Interest and Bias

Canada Accused of Playing Politics in Shipyard Tender

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Ontario shipyard accuses feds of unfairly stacking deck in Davie's favour



The Canadian Press

AUGUST 23, 2019 09:11 AM

An Ontario shipyard is accusing the federal government of trying to unfairly award Davie Shipbuilding in Quebec potentially billions of dollar in work without a competition. An overall view of the Davie shipyard is shown in Levis, Que., on Friday, Dec. 14, 2018. THE CANADIAN PRESS/Jacques Boissinot

<https://www.vancourier.com/ontario-shipyard-accuses-feds-of-unfairly-stacking-deck-in-davie-s-favour-1.23924909>

Conflict of Interest and Bias

German Bidder Claims Jet Specs Overly Restrictive



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Airbus pulls out of Canada's fighter jet competition

Company claims the cost of meeting NORAD requirements was too steep



[Murray Brewster](#) · CBC News · Posted: Aug 30, 2019 11:54 AM ET | Last Updated: August 30



Two German Eurofighter Typhoon fighter jets soar overhead in this 2017 file photo. Airbus Military announced Friday it would not submit a bid in Canada's fighter jet competition. (Ariel Schalit/The Associated Press)

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/airbus-canada-fighters-1.5265665>

Conflict of Interest and Bias

EU Bidders Bail Over US Bias in Canada's Fighter Jet RFP

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DAVID PUGLIESE,
OTTAWA CITIZEN

August 30, 2019
2:23 PM EDT

Another fighter jet firm drops out of Canadian competition, citing cost, recent changes made to accommodate the F-35

The decision to pull the Eurofighter from the competition leaves the F-35, the Boeing Super Hornet, and Saab's Gripen. It is unclear whether Boeing or Saab will continue in the competition

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Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Corruption Impacting Procurement in Afghanistan



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Afghanistan- Corruption exists in interior ministry procurement process: Survey

Date

2/26/2019 3:36:39 PM

KABUL: A recent survey conducted by the Independent Joint Anti-Corruption Monitoring and Evaluating Committee (IJACMEC) shows that administrative corruption in the interior ministry has affected its procurement process.

According to the survey, weak coordination, lack of transparency, lack of the personal data, lack of attention for retirement process and interference in some powerful officials in appointing process of national police have affected the procurement process in the ministry.

<https://menafn.com/1098178706/Afghanistan-Corruption-exists-in-interior-ministry-procurement-process-Survey>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

\$2.5 Million Penalty in Brazilian Bid-Rigging Scandal

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January 18, 2019

Eletrobras Settles SEC FCPA & Bid-Rigging Enforcement Action for \$2.5 Million

CORRUPTION,
CRIME & COMPLIANCE

WRITTEN BY:



Michael Volkov

Contact

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The bribery and bid-rigging scheme occurred from 2009 to 2015 and involved Eletrobras' nuclear power subsidiary. Former officers at Eletrobras rigged bids and collected bribes from private construction contractors involving the construction of a nuclear power plant ("UTN Angra III"). The officers authorized contracts and inflated costs of the infrastructure project. The total contract value of the project was \$5.7 billion. In exchange, the officers received bribes totaling \$9 million.

<https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/eletrobras-settles-sec-fcpa-bid-rigging-98977/>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

59 Officials Arrested in Ethiopian Corruption Crackdown



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WORLD NEWS APRIL 12, 2019 / 10:42 AM / 5 MONTHS AGO

Ethiopia arrests 59 officials over corruption, economic sabotage

ADDIS ABABA (Reuters) - Ethiopian authorities have arrested 59 government officials on suspicion of corruption and economic sabotage, the attorney general said on Friday, in the latest sweeping crackdown by the administration.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-ethiopia-corruption/ethiopia-arrests-59-officials-over-corruption-economic-sabotage-idUSKCN1R01TB>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Audit Finds Irregularities in Ugandan Procurement

Daily Monitor

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New audit unearths rot in KCCA's procurement deals

THURSDAY APRIL 4 2019



Inspection. Former KCCA executive director Jennifer Musisi inspects installation of street lights in Kampala last year. The audit report accuses the city authority of flouting government procurement rules. File photo

<https://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/New-audit-unearths-rot-KCCA-s-procurement-deals/688334-5055286-crqkcw/index.html>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Ghana's Procurement Head Caught Selling Contracts

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General News of Wednesday, 21 August 2019

Source: [Myjoyonline.com](#)

Manasseh exposé: PPA boss' company busted selling government contracts

The question was direct. And the denial was categorical.

“Is it your company?”

“No!”

“Then how do you know the company?”

“It’s my cousin,” said A.B. Adjei, the CEO of Public Procurement Authority (PPA).

Investigations by freelance investigative journalist, Manasseh Azure Awuni, has revealed that Talent Discovery Limited, a company incorporated in June 2017, has won a number of government contracts through restrictive tendering.

Manasseh Azure Awuni has also confirmed that the company was engaged in selling contracts.

<https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Manasseh-expos-PPA-boss-company-busted-selling-government-contracts-774174>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Procurement Corruption Triggers South African Strike

news24

Breaking News. First

Mr President, please step in - disgruntled City of Tshwane employees

2019-08-10 09:01

Tshidi Madia

While the DA in Tshwane reels from the recent South African Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) strike and battles to finalise its relationship with outgoing and embattled city manager Moeketsi Mosola, a group of employees calling themselves "concerned employees of Tshwane" are pleading with both national and provincial government to intervene in the city's state of affairs.



<https://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/mr-president-please-step-in-disgruntled-city-of-tshwane-employees-20190810>

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Zimbabwe's President Intervenes in Local Scandal



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President rescues city's \$144m deal

15 APR, 2019 - 00:04

Herald Reporter

Harare City Council is set to get the remaining \$72 million from the \$144 million Harare Water and Sanitation Rehabilitation Facility from China-Exim Bank after President Mnangagwa intervened following the stalling of the draw-downs from the fund due to corruption.

Chinese funders, according to the President, had withheld the funds citing that council had not used the money for the intended purpose.

<https://www.herald.co.zw/president-rescues-citys-144m-deal/>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Indonesian Bribery Case Impacts Reform Agenda

NIKKEI
ASIAN REVIEW

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Indonesia bribery cases weigh on Jokowi's reform plans

President enjoys reputation for incorruptibility, but graft imposes a heavy cost

ERWIDA MAULIA, Nikkei staff writer
MAY 02, 2019 11:03 JST

JAKARTA -- Just weeks after an election he is projected to win and seal a second term, Indonesian President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo's economic plans for the next five years have been hit by one of the nation's oldest problems: endemic corruption.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Indonesia-bribery-cases-weigh-on-Jokowi-s-reform-plans>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

India Charges Swiss Company of Military Bribes

SWI swissinfo.ch | #20yearsSWI

Pilatus accused of paying millions to secure Indian defence contract

By Anand Chandrasekhar JUN 26, 2019 - 14:30



Two of the 75 PC-7 MKII planes destined for the Indian Air Force.

((c) Pilatus Aircraft Ltd)

The Swiss aircraft manufacturer has been accused by an Indian investigating agency of paying over CHF50 million (\$51 million) in kickbacks for securing a contract to supply 75 training planes to the Indian air force.

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

South Korean Telecoms Fined \$11.4 Million for Bid-Rigging

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4 telecom firms fined over bid rigging

All Headlines • 13:42 April 25, 2019

SEJONG, April 25 (Yonhap) — South Korea's antitrust regulator said Thursday that it has fined four telecom companies a combined 13.3 billion won (US\$11.4 million) over bid rigging on government projects to set up dedicated lines.

The four companies — KT Corp., LG Uplus Corp., SK Broadband, Inc. and Sejong Telecom, Inc. — are accused of either submitting uncompetitive bids or dropping bids to ensure that pre-selected bidders won deals between April 2015 and June 2017.

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

South Korean Firms Plead Guilty to Rigging US Navy Bids

-Sierra Leone Times-

First online news service in Sierra Leone

Two companies, 7 individuals conspired to defraud U.S. military

By Jay Jackson, Sierra Leone Times
30 Mar 2019, 23:47 GMT+10

WASHINGTON DC - Two South Korean companies on Friday pleaded guilty to rigging bids on contracts involving the U.S. military.

In a stunning development, the companies Hyundai Oilbank Co. Ltd. and S-Oil Corporation have agreed to plead guilty to criminal charges and pay approximately \$75 million in fines for their involvement in a bid-rigging conspiracy that targeted contracts to supply fuel to the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force bases in South Korea for a period of about ten years.

<https://www.sierraleonetimes.com/news/260192349/two-companies-7-individuals-conspired-to-defraud-us-military>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Australian Court Fines Cartel \$24 Million

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K-Line Convicted and Fined \$24 Million for Past Cartel Activity

BY [THE MARITIME EXECUTIVE](#) 2019-08-02 20:43:58

An Australian court has convicted K-Line of criminal cartel conduct and ordered it to pay a fine of \$24 million, adding to the long string of convictions that certain ro/ro lines have accumulated in connection with an alleged price-fixing scheme dating from the late 1990s through 2012.

The court found that K-Line engaged in a cartel with other shipping companies in order to fix prices on the transportation of cars, trucks, and buses to Australia between 2009 and 2012. K-Line already pleaded guilty to the charge.

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Procurement Scandal Hits Ukrainian Military



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Corruption scandal in Ukraine's defense procurement: Top NSDC official suspended from office

18:00, 26 February 2019

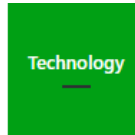
POLITICS

President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko suspended from office Oleh Hladkovsky, First Deputy Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council, pending the probe opened following a smashing journalistic investigative report on corruption schemes in defense procurement.

<https://www.unian.info/politics/10461072-corruption-scandal-in-ukraine-s-defense-procurement-top-nsdc-official-suspended-from-office.html>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Microsoft Pays \$25 Million to Settle Corruption Case



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Microsoft To Settle Corruption Charges By Paying More Than \$25 Million



George Morris · July 31, 2019

Microsoft will be paying in excess of USD 25 million in total to settle the corruption charges against it that allege the company to have resorted to illegal practices for acquiring foreign contracts. The primary allegations are concerning Hungary, where Microsoft got involved in a bribery scheme. It was revealed by the US Securities and Exchange Commission that Microsoft is entitled to pay around USD 16.6 million to settle the charges against it for violating the Foreign Corruption Practises Act.

<https://www.trickstrend.com/microsoft-to-settle-corruption-charges-by-paying-more-than-25-million/>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Report Finds Weaker EU Anti-Corruption Scores

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WESTERN EUROPE AND EU: STAGNATING ANTI-CORRUPTION EFFORTS AND WEAKENING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS

SURVEYS • 29 JANUARY 2019

The time to deliver on anti-corruption commitments throughout Western Europe & European Union is now

With an average regional score of 66 out of 100, Western Europe and the EU are doing far better than other parts of the globe. However, for a region that prides itself on some of the most robust integrity systems in the world, the patchwork of partially overlapping national and EU-level integrity systems presents its own problems and still has a long way to go to tackle corruption effectively.

<https://www.transparency.org/news/feature/cpi2018-western-europe-eu-regional-analysis>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Vegas Mayor Fights Bid-Rigging Claims



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4 Investigates: Las Vegas mayor removes agenda item calling for her resignation

Chris Ramirez

July 15, 2019 07:05 PM

LAS VEGAS, N.M. — There have been a growing number of people calling for the mayor of Las Vegas to resign. The city council was set to vote to remove Mayor Tonita Gurule-Giron from office.

In a bold move, Gurule-Giron removed that item from the council's agenda.

All this – after the attorney general [accused her of bid rigging and raided her home and city hall](#).

<https://www.kob.com/albuquerque-news/4-investigates-las-vegas-mayor-removes-agenda-item-calling-for-her-resignation/5423673/>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Over 40 Charged in Detroit Corruption Scandal



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More than 40 public and private officials charged in federal investigations in Michigan... so far

By Steve Neavling  March 06, 2019

Fifteen cops. Five suburban trustees. A former state senator. Millionaire moguls.

They're among more than 40 public and private officials charged as part of a long-running and expanding federal investigation into public corruption in metro Detroit.

...

There's Mayor Mike Duggan's demolition program, which has been the subject of a wide-ranging grand jury investigation into the handling of more than \$200 million of federal funds to knock down vacant homes. The allegations run the spectrum, from bid-rigging and fraud to conspiracy and fabricating records. So far, subpoenas have sought documents relating to the Detroit Land Bank, Building Authority, and the Mayor's office.



<https://www.metrotimes.com/detroit/more-than-40-public-and-private-officials-charged-in-federal-investigations-in-michigan-so-far/Content?oid=20647059>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Another Bid-Rigging Conviction in Quebec

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Dessau fined \$1.9M to settle bid-rigging case in Quebec

Competition Bureau found bid-rigging conspiracy on municipal contracts

The Canadian Press · Posted: Feb 19, 2019 3:07 PM ET | Last Updated: February 19

Defunct engineering firm Dessau will pay \$1.9 million in a settlement over bid-rigging on public contracts in Quebec, says Canada's competition watchdog.

The settlement, filed Tuesday in the Superior Court of Quebec, marked the end of a Competition Bureau investigation into Dessau's role in a bid-rigging conspiracy that set its sights on municipal infrastructure contracts in Quebec City, Laval, Gatineau and Montreal-area municipalities between 2003 and 2011.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/dessau-bid-rigging-1.5025051>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

WSP Ordered to Pay \$4 Million Bid-Rigging Fine

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THE CANADIAN PRESS

March 13, 2019
5:43 PM EDT

🕒 Last Updated
March 13, 2019
5:43 PM EDT

WSP ordered to pay \$4 million fine for bid-rigging on Quebec contracts

OTTAWA — The Competition Bureau says engineering firm WSP Global Inc. has been ordered to pay \$4 million for bid-rigging on municipal infrastructure contracts in Quebec.

It says the payment is part of a settlement filed with the Superior Court of Quebec for the company's role in a bid-rigging scheme between 2002 and 2011, when the firm was known as Genivar Inc.

<https://business.financialpost.com/pmn/business-pmn/wsp-ordered-to-pay-4-million-fine-for-bid-rigging-on-quebec-contracts>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Former SNC-Lavalin Head Pleads Guilty in Corruption Scandal

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How 'wilful blindness' was the undoing of engineering giant SNC-Lavalin's ex-CEO

Pierre Duhaime admits to bit role in 'biggest case of corruption fraud in Canadian history'



[Jonathan Montpetit](#) · CBC News · Posted: Feb 02, 2019 4:00 AM ET | Last Updated: February 2

Former SNC-Lavalin CEO Pierre Duhaime leaves a courtroom in Montreal on Friday, after pleading guilty to a charge of helping a public servant commit breach of trust for his role in a bribe scandal around the construction of the \$1.3-billion McGill University Health Centre. (Paul Chiasson/Canadian Press)

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

SNC-Lavalin Ordered to Trial on Libyan Bribery Allegations

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SNC-Lavalin to stand trial on corruption charges, Quebec judge rules

Quebec engineering giant accused of bribing Libyan officials while Gadhafi in power



[Jonathan Montpetit](#) · CBC News · Posted: May 29, 2019 10:35 AM ET | Last Updated: May 29

There is enough evidence against SNC-Lavalin for the engineering corporation to be tried on fraud and bribery charges, a Quebec court judge ruled Wednesday.

SNC-Lavalin spent months lobbying the federal government to avoid finding itself in this position. It hoped to use a new legal mechanism — a deferred prosecution agreement (DPA) — to pay a fine rather than risk conviction.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/snc-lavalin-trial-corruption-bribery-1.5153429>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Trudeau's Reputation in Freefall Over SNC-Lavalin



Justin Trudeau's disgrace is like watching a unicorn get run over

Leah McLaren

Fri 1 Mar 2019 15.49 GMT

For Canadian liberals, or indeed any of us who cling to outdated ideas such as good governance and liberal democratic values, it was like watching a unicorn get flattened by a lorry. Earlier this week, Canada's undeniably gorgeous, halo-bound Liberal prime minister, Justin Trudeau - proud feminist, defender of minority rights, advocate for transparency, inclusivity and decency, and prince of the one-armed push-up - was morally eviscerated over four-hours of astonishing testimony by his own former attorney general and justice minister, Jody Wilson-Raybould - a woman of great integrity and a rare Indigenous Canadian cabinet minister.

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

Trudeau Broke Conflict Rules in SNC-Lavalin Affair



Ethics Commissioner finds Trudeau broke rules in SNC- Lavalin affair

BY JOAN BRYDEN, THE CANADIAN PRESS

POSTED AUG 14, 2019 11:17 AM EDT LAST UPDATED AUG 14, 2019 AT 4:47 PM EDT

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau violated the Conflict of Interest Act by improperly pressuring former attorney general Jody Wilson-Raybould to halt the criminal prosecution of SNC-Lavalin, Canada's ethics watchdog declared Wednesday – a bombshell report that leaves a substantial crater in the Liberal government's road to re-election.

<https://toronto.citynews.ca/2019/08/14/trudeau-broke-rules-snc-lavalin/>

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

OECD Reviews Canada in Wake of SNC-Lavalin Scandal

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Canada risks deep prestige damage from OECD review of SNC-Lavalin affair, say experts

'We would be considered halfway between Germany and Russia,' says academic

[David Thurton](#) · CBC News · Posted: Mar 15, 2019 4:00 AM ET | Last Updated: March 21

An international body that works to boost trade and fight corruption is subjecting Canada to a special review in the wake of the SNC-Lavalin allegations — and while the review process itself is toothless, experts warn Canada has a lot to lose if it gets a failing grade.

Bid-Rigging, Collusion, and Corruption

PM Breaches Conflict Law

The Procurement Office

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PM Breaches Conflict Law

By Paul Emanuelli

This article is an excerpt from the 2020 edition of The Art of Tendering: A Global Due Diligence Guide, which is available for purchase.

<http://procurementoffice.com/pm-breaches-conflict-law/>

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'Everything will never be perfect'

The Procurement Office

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Major Project Controversies

Major Project Controversies

BC Audit Slams Sole-Sourcing Liquor Contracts

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Many B.C. liquor branch contracts don't comply with government standards: audit [Jon Woodward](#)

Published Wednesday, July 10, 2019 1:07PM PDT

Last Updated Wednesday, July 10, 2019 7:24PM PDT

The Crown corporation that wholesales liquor in B.C. is being hammered by the province's auditor general, who says dozens of contracts weren't signed according to government rules, with the public possibly picking up a higher tab..

Carole Bellringer says her audit shows the Liquor Distribution Branch could have used more sober second thought when inking 74 directly awarded contracts, valued at about \$25 million.

<https://bc.ctvnews.ca/many-b-c-liquor-branch-contracts-don-t-comply-with-government-standards-audit-1.4502627>

Major Project Controversies

Puerto Rico Plagued by Hurricane Contract Issues

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The Players Behind the Companies Commissioned for Puerto Rico's Recovery

August 14, 2019 By **Rafael R. Díaz Torres**

The 20 companies that have received most of the money in federal government contracting for recovery work in Puerto Rico after Hurricane María, include firms whose staff lacks the expertise to do the commissioned work, companies involved in the island's fiscal crisis, and others with formal accusations for inefficiencies and breach of contracts.

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New Zealand's APEC Contracts Breach Rules

newsroom.

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AUGUST 5, 2019

Updated August 5, 2019

Sam Sachdeva

Millions in APEC contracts approved through flawed process

Millions of dollars of spending on New Zealand's hosting of APEC in 2021 was signed off through deficient processes, an internal review shows.

Eighty percent of the initial contracts signed for New Zealand's hosting of a major international summit failed to meet the Government's own procurement guidelines, a review has revealed.

<https://www.newsroom.co.nz/2019/08/05/711210/millions-in-apec-contracts-approved-through-flawed-process#>

Major Project Controversies

Ireland Burns Millions on Flawed Consulting Advice

THE IRISH TIMES

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Consultants paid lavishly for wrong advice on broadband

Cantillon / Government spends more than €25m on consultancy fees for National Broadband Plan

© Tue, Aug 27, 2019, 04:15

Updated: Tue, Aug 27, 2019, 08:14

Whether or not we think the Government's €2.9 billion National Broadband Plan (NBP) represents value for money – and it seems most outside the corridors of power don't – there is one thing we can agree on. The €25 million dished out in fees to firms such as **KPMG** has been an unmitigated disaster.

<https://www.irishtimes.com/business/technology/consultants-paid-lavishly-for-wrong-advice-on-broadband-1.3998019>

Major Project Controversies

Malta Facing Claims in Casino Direct Award

CalvinAyre.com

BUSINESS POKER CASINO SPORTS CONFERENCES BITCOIN DIRECTORY VIDEOS VENTURES

Local community not happy with Dragonara concession extension

BY [Erik Gibbs](#) ON July 09, 2019

About a week ago, the Dragonara Casino on the Mediterranean island nation of [Malta](#) was given a rather substantial extension to its operating concession. Regulators gave Dragonara Gaming Ltd. (DGL) a 64-year extension, an unprecedented number in virtually any jurisdiction. Not surprisingly, the deal has now come under fire and, according to [Malta Today](#), rival casinos are livid and ready to take legal action over the extension.

<https://calvinayre.com/2019/07/09/casino/local-community-not-happy-with-dragonara-concession-extension/>

Major Project Controversies

2022 Date for Canada's Fighter Jet Award Faces More Delays

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DAVID PUGLIESE,
OTTAWA CITIZEN

April 18, 2019
2:59 PM EDT

🕒 **Last Updated**
April 19, 2019
1:27 AM EDT

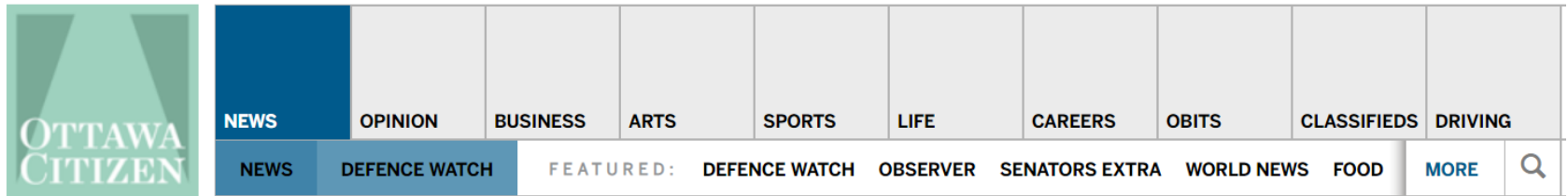
Government expects to award contract for new fighter jet fleet in 2022 (but admits it could face delays)

A request for bids to provide 88 new jets to the Royal Canadian Air Force will be released next month

Though the federal government expects to award a contract for a new fleet of fighter jets in 2022, it admits that schedule is aggressive and could yet face further delays.

Major Project Controversies

Lack of Procurement Expertise May Delay Drone Purchases



Lack of expert procurement staff could hinder Canadian Forces drone purchase

DAVID PUGLIESE, OTTAWA CITIZEN Updated: April 18, 2019

The DND update warned that there might not be enough procurement staff with the required expertise to move that program forward on schedule. The department hopes to deal with the problem by hiring contractors. A draft invitation to qualify for that project was released April 5 and a contract is expected to be awarded in 2022, the update pointed out.

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Canada Expands Navy Program to \$70 Billion

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DAVID PUGLIESE,
OTTAWA CITIZEN

June 21, 2019
1:55 PM EDT

Cost of Canadian navy warship project increases to \$70B, according to new PBO estimate

The estimate is some \$8B higher than its previous one two years ago. The Canadian Surface Combatant program is the largest single expenditure in Canadian government history

The cost of the Canadian navy's new surface combatant ships has further increased because of delays and changes in the size of the ship, according to a new report from the Parliamentary Budget Officer.

The PBO puts the latest cost estimate of the Canadian surface combatant ships at \$70 billion, some \$8 billion higher than its previous estimate from two years ago.

Major Project Controversies

US Federal Court Strikes Down \$15 Billion in Awards

PYMNTS.com



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Court Ruling Reveals Complexities Of SMB Government Contracts

By PYMNTS  

Posted on April 3, 2019

The U.S. **General Services Administration** (GSA) has been forced to throw out \$15 billion worth of IT service contracts with small businesses (SMBs) issued last year, after the **Court of Federal Claims** ruled that the government incorrectly evaluated vendor bids.

<https://www.pymnts.com/news/b2b-payments/2019/gsa-smb-government-contract-procurement/>

Major Project Controversies

Australian Auditors Take Aim on IT Projects



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DIGITAL NATION

By Justin Hendry
Jul 3 2019
7:00AM

Spotlight cast on IT, infosec and privacy.

Spring might only be weeks away, but in Canberra the government's central scrutinizer is gearing up for a tech clean-up with a slew of audits dominating the public sector's IT capabilities in the latest list tranche of reviews for the next 12 months.



The Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) this week revealed its highly anticipated annual work program of potential reviews, with no less than 14 zeroing in on IT, cyber security and privacy.

The tech probity probes follow one of the worst years for high-profile IT blunders during 2018, despite the Digital Transformation Agency's best efforts to stop **projects from boiling over**.

<https://www.itnews.com.au/news/agencies-face-fresh-audit-blitz-after-wave-of-tech-wrecks-527585>

Major Project Controversies

Technology Contracts a Target for Corruption

The Procurement Office

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Technology Contracts a Target for Corruption

By Paul Emanuelli

This article is an excerpt from The Art of Tendering: A Global Due Diligence Guide, which is available for [purchase](#).

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<http://procurementoffice.com/technology-contracts-a-target-for-corruption-2/>

Major Project Controversies

GAO Pans Navy's \$20 Billion No Warranty Plan

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Buyer Beware: The U.S. Navy's New Frigate Doesn't Come With A Warranty

by [Michael Peck](#)

August 17, 2019

When you buy a \$20,000 sedan, you expect to get a manufacturer's warranty that promises to fix all defects without the customer paying a dime.

But not when it's a billion-dollar frigate. The U.S. Navy's new FFG(X) frigate will not come with a warranty. Instead, each ship will come with a "guaranty," in which the shipbuilder pledges to correct defects—though only up to a certain dollar value, and with the government paying for part of the repairs. A new [Government Accountability Office report](#) describes this arrangement:

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/buyer-beware-us-navy-s-new-frigate-doesn-t-come-warranty-74191>

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GAO Pans \$20 Billion No-Warranty Plan

By Paul Emanuelli

This article is an excerpt from the 2020 edition of The Art of Tendering: A Global Due Diligence Guide, which is available for purchase.

<http://procurementoffice.com/gao-pans-20-billion-no-warranty-plan/>

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Lockheed Martin and Pentagon Agree to Largest Procurement Deal in History

We're nearing an important milestone for the F-35.

Lou Whiteman

([TMFeldoubleu](#))

Jun 15, 2019 at 8:00AM



Lockheed Martin ([NYSE:LMT](#)) has reached a tentative agreement with the Pentagon on the next batch of F-35 fighters, cutting the price by 8.8% on the base unit. Even with the discount, the order, which is valued at \$34 billion, would rank as the largest single defense deal in world history.

Major Project Controversies

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