

Change: Unlocking New Opportunities
Face aux changements : Découvrir de nouvelles possibilités

Preliminary Program / Programme préliminaire

Sunday May 3, 2026 / Dimanche 3 mai 2026

Pre-Forum Seminar/ Séminaire Pré-Forum

08:30 – 16:00



Procurement Contracting Essentials: From Formation to Risk Management

Lise Patry, Partner – LXM LAW

Course Description:

Procurement professionals regularly finalize contracts that create binding legal obligations and long-term operational risk—often without the benefit of formal legal training. This one-day workshop provides a practical, plain-language overview of procurement contracting fundamentals, with a focus on how contracts are formed, structured, amended, and typically managed in a public sector context.

Participants will gain a working understanding of the legal principles that underpin procurement contracts, including what is required for a procurement contract to be legally binding, how procurement documents interact with final agreements, and common pitfalls that arise in day-to-day procurement activities.



The workshop will examine the typical structure of a procurement contract and key contract provisions—such as indemnities, insurance, limitation of liability, intellectual property ownership —so participants can better understand their purpose and risk implications. Through real world examples and interactive discussion, the session will emphasize how procurement contracts function as risk-allocation and governance tools.

This workshop is designed for procurement professionals who want to strengthen their contract literacy, improve risk awareness, and feel more confident navigating procurement contracts throughout the procurement lifecycle.

Learning Outcomes:





By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:



- Understand the basic principles of contract law as they apply to procurement activities
- Identify the elements required for a binding procurement contract and recognize when legal obligations arise
- Distinguish between procurement documents and the final contract, and understand how they interact



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navigate the structure of a typical procurement contract and understand the purpose of key sections • Interpret and assess common contract clauses, including indemnities, insurance provisions, limitations of liability, and intellectual property ownership provisions • Understand how and when procurement contracts can be amended, and recognize common risks associated with informal or improper amendments • Use contracts more effectively as tools to manage risk, support accountability, and reduce disputes
12:30 – 13:00	 Networking Lunch / Dîner de réseautage
15:00 – 18:00	 CPPC Forum Registration Opens / Ouverture du bureau d'inscriptions pour le Forum

Monday May 4, 2026 / Lundi 4 mai 2026




Day 1 – CPPC Forum / Forum – jour 1	
08:00 – 17:00	 Registration / Inscriptions
08:00 – 08:30	 Continental Breakfast / Déjeuner continental
08:30 – 09:00	 Welcome Remarks & Opening Ceremony / Accueil et Cérémonie d'ouverture
09:05 – 09:40	 Learning Groups / Séance d'apprentissage en groupe
09:45 – 10:45	<p> PLENARY / PLÉNIÈRE</p> <p>Designing Procurement for Complexity: Lessons from Agile IT Procurement Models</p> <p>Lise Patry, Partner – LXM LAW</p> <p>As public-sector organizations replace aging IT infrastructure, procurement professionals are increasingly tasked with designing procurements for complex IT and digital solutions. In these procurements, traditional single-stage RFPs are often ill-suited to address evolving requirements and fragmented vendor markets, which may require multiple contractual arrangements. This plenary examines how some procurement authorities have adapted their approaches through agile procurement models such as competitive dialogue, multi-phased RFX processes, vendor pre-engagement, and iterative bid refinement.</p>






	Drawing on examples from Ontario, the federal government, and the MASH sector, the session explores how these approaches can be used to better align procurement outcomes, risk allocation, and governance in high-stakes IT procurements.	
10:45 – 11:00	 Refreshment Break / Pause rafraîchissement	
11:05 – 12:05	<p> Concurrent Sessions / Séance en parallèle</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div data-bbox="443 604 930 1497" style="width: 48%;"> <p>When it comes to bid-rigging, better safe than sorry: learn how to protect the integrity of your procurement processes</p> <p>Majid Charania, Director of Compliance and Outreach - <i>Competition Bureau</i></p> <p>Public procurement can be at risk for bid-rigging, especially in a rapidly changing economic and policy environment. Market pressures can push suppliers to engage in risky behaviour to try to make an extra buck. In light of the federal government’s push to deploy taxpayer funds rapidly in areas such as housing and defence, there has never been a better time to learn how to prevent, detect and report bid rigging in your procurement processes. In addition to learning valuable content, participants will engage in an interactive demonstration of the Competition Bureau’s web-based Collusion Risk Assessment Tool that can help minimize the risk of bid-rigging.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="930 604 1425 1497" style="width: 48%;"> <p>Agile Procurement in a Time of Rapid Change: Playbooks That Survive Audit</p> <p>Anjana Raman, Director, Program Management – <i>Infosys Public Services</i></p> <p>Brent McGaw – <i>Infosys Public Services</i></p> <p>Public procurement is under pressure to deliver faster, smarter, and more resilient outcomes—without compromising compliance. This session explores how agile procurement methods can accelerate IT and digital projects while meeting trade agreement and audit requirements. Through real-world examples and interactive exercises, participants will learn how to design multi-stage RFPs, modular contracts, and collaborative vendor engagement strategies that balance speed with transparency and fairness.</p> </div> </div>	
12:05 – 13:05	 Lunch / Dîner	
13:10 – 14:10	<p> PLENARY / PLÉNIÈRE</p> <p>Winning the Next Generation: Leading Through the Silver Tsunami</p> <p>SOVRA</p> <p>Retirements, vacancies, and skills gaps are the #1 constraint across Canadian procurement. This session will discuss stabilizing service levels today while building a workforce for tomorrow. Learn how to attract and retain the next generation, especially</p>	

	<p>Gen Z, by blending purpose, flexibility, and technology. We'll explore techniques, technology, and coaching that make procurement roles faster to learn, easier to love, and harder to leave.</p>	
<p>14:15 – 15:15</p>	<p> Concurrent Sessions / Séance en parallèle</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p>Supplier Engagement in Action: Building Resilient, Sustainable Supply Chains</p> <p>Anick Cormier, Director of Procurement Policy and Outreach – <i>Service NB</i></p> <p>Tim Reeve, President and Founder – <i>Reeve Consulting</i></p> <p>Collaborating with suppliers is critical to building resilient supply chains that deliver measurable impact. Hear from Anick Cormier, Director of Procurement Policy and Outreach (Service New Brunswick), and Tim Reeve, Sustainable Procurement Advisor (Reeve Consulting), on how strategic engagement strengthens sustainability and inclusion while reducing compliance risk and driving innovation. Gain insights into readiness tools, structured storytelling frameworks, and prioritization strategies for supplier engagement that support the four pillars of sustainability—Environmental, Social, Indigenous, and Ethical.</p> </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p>De l'innovation à l'action : l'IA comme levier de performance en approvisionnement</p> <p>(Cette séance se déroulera en français)</p> <p>Vincent Vu, Directeur, Direction de l'approvisionnement et de la gestion immobilière – <i>Ville de Lévis</i></p> <p>Cette séance mettra en lumière l'approche innovante adoptée par la Direction de l'approvisionnement de la Ville de Lévis pour concevoir et déployer un agent d'intelligence artificielle au service de sa fonction approvisionnement. À partir d'un cas réel, les participants découvriront comment l'IA peut devenir un véritable levier d'aide à la décision, améliorer l'efficacité administrative et optimiser l'utilisation des ressources dans un contexte organisationnel exigeant. La présentation abordera également les enjeux clés de gouvernance, d'éthique, ainsi que la conformité au cadre légal et aux politiques en vigueur. Les participants repartiront avec un exemple concret d'application de l'IA, ainsi que des leçons apprises et des facteurs clés de succès favorisant une intégration responsable, efficace et durable.</p> </div> </div>	
<p>15:15 – 15:30</p>	<p> Refreshment Break / Pause rafraîchissement</p>	

15:35 – 16:35	<p> Concurrent Sessions / Séance en parallèle</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p>How to Negotiate with Mega Vendors</p> <p>Jess Aggio, Senior Principal Analyst, Sourcing, Procurement and Vendor Management - <i>Gartner</i></p> <p>Negotiating with IT mega-vendors can seem like a daunting task. This negotiation clinic will help provide attendees with insight into how to gain leverage and bargaining power through tactics, templates, Ts and Cs and timing. Vendors covered will be consulting mega vendors (the big 5 and more), IT services (MSP) and software vendors (ServiceNow, SAP etc.)</p> </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p>CPPO/CPPB Certification Trivia Showdown: Are You Exam-Ready?</p> <p>Trish Rafuse, CPPO, CPPB, Co-Chair of Board of Examiners – <i>UPPCC</i></p> <p>Considering CPPO or CPPB certification? Feeling ready to test—or just curious about the questions you’ll face? Join us for an overview of the Certified Public Procurement Officer (CPPO) and Certified Professional Public Buyer (CPPB) certifications from the UPPCC, including eligibility, exam format, and what to expect on exam day. Then put your knowledge to the test with a live, trivia-style quiz featuring sample questions across key procurement domains and competencies.</p> </div> </div>
15:35 – 16:35	<p> Learning Groups / Séance d’apprentissage en groupe</p>

Tuesday May 5, 2026 / Mardi 5 mai 2026

Day 2 – CPPC Forum / Forum – jour 2	
08:00 – 17:00	<p> Registration / Inscriptions</p>
08:00 – 08:30	<p> Continental Breakfast / Déjeuner continental</p>
08:30 – 09:45	<p> KEYNOTE SPEAKER / CONFÉRENCIER PRINCIPAL</p> <p>Anything Is Possible - Embrace Where You Live</p> <p>James Mullinger - Keynote Speaker, Author, Comedian</p> <p>A hugely inspiring, uplifting and hilarious motivational keynote speech from the award-winning British writer, speaker, comedian about celebrating where you live and how adjusting your perceptions will drastically improve the way we all live, work and play. James’ hilarious and profound insights in to dealing with people and how you view the world will improve your life professionally as well as personally. James will teach your</p>

	delegates how to apply his unique outlook to increase productivity, bring about balance, improve self care and, above all, provide powerful resilience in the workplace, the home and in the world at large!	
09:45 – 10:00	☕ Refreshment Break / Pause rafraîchissement	
10:05 – 11:05	 Concurrent Sessions / Séance en parallèle	
	Collaborative Procurement Models for Large, Complex Projects Mélanie Pouliot , National Director, Contract Services - Defence Construction Canada (DCC) <i>Themes</i> : better.outcomes.through.risk_sharing.and.collaboration; Explore alternative procurement strategies (e.g., early contractor involvement, qualification-based selection, progressive design-build).	Bureau de la Concurrence Plus.de.détails.à.venir
11:10 – 12:10	 PLENARY / PLÉNIÈRE TBC – EDILEX with ROSSLYN YOUNG More.details.to.come	
12:10 – 13:25	  Buffet Lunch & Award Ceremony/ Dîner buffet & cérémonie des Prix	
13:30 – 14:30	 Concurrent Sessions / Séance en parallèle	
	Building a Cohesive Team Travis Janzen , Manager, Procurement Services	The Office of the Procurement Ombud More.details.to.come

**Nadine Maxwell, Category Specialist
- WSIB.**

This session will be interactive and highlight the importance of communication, building tighter bonds, and having fun with your teams. We will discuss and show how to build a highly motivated, well-connected teams through a variety of strategies. We will dive into some of the psychology and statistics surrounding team building. All of this to be linked back to how this has affected how we work together at WSIB and how some of our successes are easy to replicate at other organizations and can help build a well-connected team, improve staff morale, and improve the quality of work.

14:30 – 14:45



Refreshment Break / Pause rafraîchissement

14:50 – 15:50



Concurrent Sessions / Séance en parallèle

**Unlocking Procurement
Excellence: A Strategic Pathway to
the AEP Award**

Discover how Canadian public procurement professionals can benefit from the Achievement of Excellence in Procurement® (AEP) program, a prestigious recognition established by the National Procurement Institute (NPI). This session will outline the award's criteria, demonstrate how organizations of any size or sector can leverage the program to achieve global recognition, and highlight the evolving partnership between NPI and the Canadian Public Procurement Council (CPPC). Participants will also hear real-world testimonials from agencies that have earned the AEP and the positive impact it has had on their teams and performance.



Buy Canadian


***Public Services and Procurement
Canada (PSPC)***

This session provides an overview of the Government of Canada's new Buy Canadian Policy. Participants will gain insight into the policy's key features, including strengthened Canadian content requirements and the increased prioritization of Canadian suppliers, as well as considerations for aligning procurement practices with these requirements. The presentation will also highlight the role of Procurement Assistance Canada (PAC) and how they help suppliers navigate the federal procurement process.

15:55 – 16:45	 Sectorial Open Discussions / Discussions ouvertes sectorielles Procurement.Professionals.Only An interactive session where participants connect and share common challenges within their sectors, municipal, provincial, federal, health, education, and crown corporations.
18:30 – 21:30	 Social Event (included.in.registration).— Événement social .(inclus.dans.l'inscription). Dinner and Entertainment at Fredericton Boyce Farmers Market

Wednesday May 6, 2026 / Mercredi le 6 mai, 2026

Day 3 – CPPC Forum / Forum – jour 3	
08:00 – 12:00	 Registration / Inscriptions
08:00 – 08:30	 Breakfast / Déjeuner
08:35 – 09:35	<p>★ PLENARY / PLÉNIÈRE</p> <p>From Compliance to Leadership: Advancing Public Procurement in Light of the Gallant Commission</p> <p>Francois Emond, Executive Director – CPPC</p> <p>This session will highlight the key elements presented by CPPC in its brief to the Gallant Commission, the 2025 inquiry into the governance failures and cost overruns surrounding the SAAQ's major digital transformation initiative. The discussion will draw on publicly released findings that directly relate to the procurement and contract management cycle, illustrating the critical need to elevate the procurement function to a strategic role within public organizations.</p> <p>The session will also showcase the initiatives CPPC is leading to promote a structured, professionalized approach to developing procurement practitioners, ensuring they possess the competencies required to support this evolving mandate.</p>
9:40 – 10:40	<p>★ PLENARY / PLÉNIÈRE</p> <p>Collaborating Sector - Being a Collective Force for Good</p>

	<p>Nicole Fowler, NISCL-CSCL, MCIPS, SCMP, Director, Strategic Procurement Services - <i>Queen's University</i></p> <p>Sandra Nelson, Executive Director, University Procurement – <i>University of Toronto</i></p> <p>With our ever-changing landscape in public procurement, there is comfort in knowing you have peers to help you 'weather the storm'. In Ontario, the university sector is a strong collaborative procurement group who have been diligent in working together to ensure our institutions are well positioned to handle changes and challenges in public procurement. This collaborative approach ensures our procurement resources are used as a collective force for good.</p>
10:45 – 10:55	 Refreshment Break / Pause rafraîchissement
11:00 – 12:00	<p>★ CLOSING PLENARY / PLÉNIÈRE DE CLÔTURE</p> <p>Lessons from the Trenches</p> <p>Procurement professionals with a story to tell</p> <p>Discover the untold stories behind some of the most unusual procurement projects, real-life cases that took unexpected turns, and acquisitions with mind-boggling logistics. This session is your exclusive chance to hear firsthand accounts from our members about their unique experiences, learn valuable lessons from projects that didn't go as planned and gain insights into the complexities and challenges faced in the field. This is a rare opportunity to delve into the fascinating realities of procurement and logistics. Be inspired, informed, and ready to tackle your own challenges with newfound knowledge!</p>
12:05 – 12:15	Closing Remarks / Cérémonie de clôture

**** Program is subject to change without notice.***

**** Le programme est sujet à changement sans préavis.***

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