

Clear Path to Direct Award

Misconception	Reality
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World and interprovincial trade agreements require governments to put social, health and education contracts to points-based, competitive, open bids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade agreements require services that directly benefit government (e.g. office cleaning, office supplies) to use competitive procurement methods. Services that benefit citizens are specifically excluded from all trade agreements.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BC Procurement Policy requires governments to put social, health and education contracts to points-based, competitive, open bids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under Chapter 6:3:2:39.d.iv of the BC's Core Policy and Procedures Manual, Direct Awards are appropriate when a competitive process would interfere with a ministry's ability to maintain security or order or to protect human, animal or plant life or health.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministries have no control over contracting - Citizen's Services is in charge of all purchasing for the Province. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to Minister Beare, Citizen's Services has no authority over PHSA, and that Citizen's Services is in charge of implementing purchasing decisions made by Ministers, not determining the form of purchasing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are too many crisis centres, so there is no clear provider to contract with in each health authority. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is one clear lead agency in each regional health authority, sometimes working through multiple physical locations. Having multiple locations protects crisis line services from power outages, floods, wildfires, and large portions of highways collapsing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RFPs should be used to renegotiate existing contracts with existing providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When the intent is to renegotiate existing contracts with existing providers, fair and transparent business practice is to work directly with your existing providers.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is possible to buy robust, community-embedded, flexible, skilled, expert social, health and education services on the open competitive market. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We invite you to build on your robust, community-embedded, flexible, skilled, expert network of Crisis Centres so that all British Columbians can access us when they need us.