

## What is the advantage of buying through Kinetic GPO?

Kinetic makes cooperative purchasing as simple as possible, yet our compliance process provides the legally required competition for our contracts. We'll do the work, you save the time and money.

### Additional advantages are as follows:

- ✦ Voluntary access to our contracts, with no spend or volume commitment;
- ✦ Continuously increasing choice of a wide range of collaboratively-sourced and competitively-priced products and services available through our contract;
- ✦ A fair, open and transparent procurement process to ensure compliance with Chapter 5 of the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) and other international trade agreements, including the Canada-EU Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreements (CETA).
- ✦ Cost-efficient and time-saving way to meet your organization's procurement needs.

## How much does it cost to participate with Kinetic GPO?

Membership is free! There are no costs or fees to participate with Kinetic.

## Who is eligible to use Kinetic GPO? Eligible entities include:

- ✦ School Districts
- ✦ School Boards
- ✦ Cities/Municipalities
- ✦ Airports
- ✦ Churches
- ✦ Counties
- ✦ Charitable Organizations
- ✦ Hospitals
- ✦ Private Schools
- ✦ Colleges and Universities
- ✦ Water Authorities
- ✦ Housing Authorities
- ✦ Police/Fire Departments
- ✦ Parks and Recreation

## What is a Group Purchasing Organization (GPO)?

Kinetic is a Group Purchasing Organization (GPO) that helps Canadian Broader Public Sector and MASH entities realize savings through leveraging purchasing volumes. This leverage allows for Kinetic to better establish discounts on behalf of its members through a competitive public tender process.

## Beyond savings what other value add services are offered?

Kinetic GPO actively manages contracts throughout their term. We monitor key performance indicators, as well as provide ongoing education for suppliers to ensure they are operating in compliance with the terms and conditions of the contract.

## What purchasing procedures does Kinetic follow?

All Kinetic contracts are awarded using a competitive solicitation process consistent with Chapter 5 of the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) and other international trade agreements, including the Canada-EU Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA).

## Will Kinetic help members meet the notice of participation requirements under the CFTA?

CFTA requires the public sector entities to publish a notice of their participation with Kinetic at least annually on one of the tendering websites or systems designated by its province/territory. If requested Kinetic will take care of doing this for its members, to facilitate compliance.

## What does the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) state about Group Purchasing?

The Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) recognizes "Group Buying" as a valid way for public sector organizations to procure goods and services. The complete language is detailed in Article 504.5-9: Scope and Coverage, found on Page 40 of the CFTA. This language is also listed on the Kinetic website ([www.KineticGPO.ca](http://www.KineticGPO.ca))

## Where does Kinetic post tender notices?

Kinetic posts RFX opportunities on MERX, Biddingo and Bonfire.

## Where does Kinetic post award information?

Award information is available on the Kinetic website ([www.kineticgpo.ca](http://www.kineticgpo.ca)). Merx, Bonfire and Biddingo are also updated with award information once the evaluation process is complete and a contract signed.

## How long does Kinetic post their RFX opportunities for?

Kinetic posts RFX opportunities for a minimum of forty-five (45) calendar days which exceeds the minimum posting times in the trade agreement. Kinetic does this to ensure all bidders have ample time to prepare proposals. In addition, Kinetic engages the supplier market in the procurement planning stage via supplier consultations and issues a notice of procurement in advance of the upcoming RFX opportunities.

## Do Kinetic's tender notices comply with trade agreement requirements?

Yes, the following information is included:

- ✦ Kinetic's name and contact information;
- ✦ a list of participating procuring entities while also outlining the potential for other procuring entities to participate in the procurement after the standing offer agreement(s) is put in place;
- ✦ a description of the procurement, including the nature and quantity of the deliverables and the contracting opportunity;
- ✦ a list and brief description of any conditions for participating in the process and requirements for specific documents/certificates;
- ✦ trade agreement(s) procurement is subject to;
- ✦ a description of the initial term of the agreement and description of any options;
- ✦ the procurement method that will be used and whether it will involve negotiation;
- ✦ any authentication and encryption requirements related to the submission of supplier information by electronic means;
- ✦ the location and deadline for the submission of bids;
- ✦ the language or languages in which bids may be submitted;
- ✦ the criteria that will be used to select a limited number of qualified suppliers (if applicable) and any applicable limitation on the number of suppliers permitted to tender.



**Kinetic GPO**

[www.kineticgpo.ca](http://www.kineticgpo.ca)