

to the editor

Re: Procurement Professionals: Today and tomorrow, March 2007

WE AT THE PURCHASING Management Association of Canada (PMAC) agree completely with your observation that whether in the public sector or private, the procurement profession is demonstrating increased strategic significance. As part of this shift, procurement professionals face greater demands and are expected to deliver more – more value, more innovation, more leadership.

In this environment, the training and certification of procurement professionals is playing a more important role than ever. This is equally true in the public sector where procurement professionals with the right knowledge and skills can build sound, transparent and accountable institutions that contribute to the social and economic development of the country.

Preparing procurement professionals to meet the needs of a changing marketplace is the objective of PMAC's new Strategic Supply Chain Management Leadership Program, launching across Canada this fall. This 36-month executive development program offers a balance of foundational supply chain management knowledge and high-level business skills, leading to the country's most respected credential in the field, the Certified Professional Purchaser (C.P.P.).

While your article correctly states that this country does not have a national certification body dedicated exclusively to public procurement professionals, PMAC is a pan-Canadian association with a mandate to grant our professional credentials to both private and public sector procurement professionals.

We believe that the fundamentals of effective procurement practice cut across sectors, but also recognize that the public sector has unique characteristics and requirements. Our program incorporates the public sector perspective and includes a seven-week module dedicated to public sector supply chain management.

PMAC encourages anyone who is interested in learning more about careers in supply chain management, the competencies required of strategic supply chain management professionals or our Strategic Supply Chain Management Leadership Program, to contact us as 1-888-799-0877 or www.pmac.ca.

Sharon Ferriss
Director, Public Affairs and Communications
Purchasing Management Association of Canada (PMAC)

