

RCC Small Business Lens Working Group: Small Business Lens Work Plan

Canada Lead: Michael Presley, Assistant Secretary, Regulatory Affairs Sector, Treasury Board Secretariat
 U.S. Lead: Jeff Weiss, Associate Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget

Deliverable outcome	Both countries are looking to reduce regulatory burden on small businesses by developing tools and provisions that better integrate small business considerations in the design of regulations. U.S.–Canada collaboration can increase sensitivity and responsiveness to the needs of small businesses, particularly those engaged in cross-border trade.
Interim Deliverables	
3-6 Months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Canada to publish the Small Business Lens, a new tool that requires regulators to take into account the impact that new or amended regulations have on small business. 2. Canadian officials brief U.S. officials on the Small Business Lens, and U.S. officials brief Canadian officials on the Regulatory Flexibility Act, www.Business.USA.gov, and President Obama’s January 18, 2011, memorandum on “Regulatory Flexibility, Small Business, and Job Creation.” 3. The U.S. will add new features and content, and open new channels of communication (e.g., email and social media) to the beta version of the www.Business.USA.gov, a new “no wrong door” internet platform for small businesses and exporters that uses technology to quickly connect businesses to the government services and information relevant to them, regardless of where the information is located or which agency’s website, call center, or office they go to for information or assistance. 4. Based on public feedback, the U.S. will seek to integrate State and local governments, as well as related private sector partners, into www.Business.USA.gov.
6-12 months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Canadian and U.S. officials meet to discuss the approaches and tools each government uses to consider and minimize burdens imposed on small business by regulation. These approaches and tools include Canada’s Small Business Lens and the U.S. Regulatory Flexibility Act, www.Business.USA.gov, and President Obama’s January 18, 2011, memorandum on “Regulatory Flexibility, Small Business, and Job Creation.”
12-18 months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. U.S. will identify new and innovative ways to help small businesses find rulemakings with international impacts and engage in the rulemaking process. 2. Canada will highlight examples of regulatory flexibility for small businesses.
Beyond 18 Months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Canada and the U.S. will consider ways in which the Small Business Lens and relevant U.S. tools may be used together to achieve greater alignment of our regulatory practices, and how this alignment could assist small businesses engaged in cross-border trade.

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