

Interim Functional Direction for MVP Design Strategies

In response to recent implementation requirements under directives such as Office Portfolio Reduction Plan (OPRP) and Minimum Viable Product (MVP), targeted updates have been made to select sections of the [GCworkplace Technical Reference Manual](#) (TRM). The updates can be found on pages 2-6 & 32-33. These updates provide clear, value-driven strategies to reduce project costs while maintaining baseline functional and performance criteria across federal workplace initiatives.

Purpose of the Document Updates:

Its purpose is to provide practical specifications and strategies that support workplace design while aligning with OPRP and MVP outcomes, all within the boundaries of established standards and policies. The content is drawn from existing authoritative documentation such as; [GCworkplace Technical Reference Manual](#), [Fit-Up Elements and Funding Accountabilities](#), [Technical Reference for Office Building Design](#), [Schedule C of Building Lease Agreements](#).

MVP Core Principle:

One of MVP's core principles is to minimizing modifications to existing assets and maximize the re-use of existing assets wherever appropriate. New elements should only be introduced where they deliver the highest functional impact and best overall value. This approach optimizes both design and budget efficiency while supporting fiscally responsible portfolio management.

Examples of Interim Design Strategies:

- ☐ Reuse architectural, mechanical, electrical, furniture, equipment, and technology elements
- ☐ Omit decorative or non-critical design elements and prioritize essential performance and user functionality per the TRM specifications
- ☐ over decorative or non-critical design elements
- ☐ Specify finish applications with the greatest impact on upkeep and maintenance
- ☐ Limit/omit finishes in non-operational areas
- ☐ Limit built-in elements to only what is functionally necessary and prioritize freestanding or pre-fabricated systems over custom millwork
- ☐ Prioritize alternative solutions, such as flexible finishes or furnishings to manage acoustics rather than permanent installations

Note: Project teams are accountable for evaluating project-specific elements and ensuring that both performance and cost deliver best value for Canada. All procurement protocols and performance based specification standards remain fully in effect, and all work must align with PSPC's legislative obligations and Treasury Board policy requirements. This document complements existing guidance and does not alter contractual, legal, or policy obligations.