



**CRI**

Centre for Regulatory Innovation

## Regulators' Capacity Fund

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### *Competition Assessment Toolkit*

Competition plays an important role in spurring productivity and innovation. Canada's regulatory environment could be more competition-friendly, as regulations often unnecessarily or inadvertently constrain Canadian competitiveness by failing to take competition considerations into account. Canada could materially improve its economic performance by easing such barriers while still achieving regulatory goals.

To identify and seize these opportunities, Canada's regulators need access to specialized tools for performing competition impact assessments, which would enable them to create better-informed regulations and minimize the risk of unintended consequences for Canadian competitiveness.

To this end, the Competition Bureau engaged in extensive research and consulted with domestic and international experts to identify best practices in competition assessment of regulations. This research was used to create a [Competition Assessment Toolkit](#) that could be used in order to educate stakeholders about best practices in competition, promoting innovation by enabling regulators to better identify and avoid overly prescriptive regulations that would otherwise hinder innovation.

The Competition Bureau extensively promoted the Toolkit throughout the regulatory community. Early indications suggest that regulators are receptive to applying the Toolkit to existing or proposed policies, and the Toolkit has been ranked as the Competition Bureau's most useful publication among policymakers and regulators. The Competition Bureau continues to promote the Toolkit as a means of informing key stakeholders and regulators about best practices in competition.

In 2022, the Toolkit principles were incorporated into a broader [Competitiveness Assessment Tool](#) developed under the leadership of TBS for consultation, affirming their relevance to regulatory design and evaluation.

