

RETURN BIDS TO:
RETOURNER LES SOUMISSIONS À:
Drugs, Vaccines and Biologics Division/Div.des produits pharmaceutiques,biologiques et de vaccins
11 Laurier St. / 11, rue Laurier
6B3, Place du Portage III
Gatineau
Quebec
K1A 0S5

LETTER OF INTEREST
LETTRE D'INTÉRÊT

Title - Sujet Canada's Influenza Vaccine Supply	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation E60PH-120001/B	Date 2014-09-25
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client E60PH-00012	GETS Ref. No. - N° de réf. de SEAG PW-\$\$PH-896-65777
File No. - N° de dossier ph896.E60PH-120001	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM on - le 2014-10-10	
Time Zone Fuseau horaire Eastern Daylight Saving Time EDT	
F.O.B. - F.A.B. Plant-Usine: <input type="checkbox"/> Destination: <input type="checkbox"/> Other-Autre: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à: Baird, Christa	Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur ph896
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (403) 991-5231 ()	FAX No. - N° de FAX () -
Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction: SEE HEREIN	

Comments - Commentaires

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

Vendor/Firm Name and Address
Raison sociale et adresse du
fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur

Delivery Required - Livraison exigée	Delivery Offered - Livraison proposée
Vendor/Firm Name and Address Raison sociale et adresse du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur	
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone Facsimile No. - N° de télécopieur	
Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of Vendor/Firm (type or print) Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du fournisseur/ de l'entrepreneur (taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie)	
Signature	Date

Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution
Drugs, Vaccines and Biologics Division/Div.des produits pharmaceutiques,biologiques et de vaccins
11 Laurier St. / 11, rue Laurier
6B3, Place du Portage III
Gatineau
Quebec
K1A 0S5

Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation

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ph896E60PH-120001

Buyer ID - Id de l'acheteur

ph896

CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No/ N° VME

Client Ref. No. - N° de réf. du client

E60PH-00012

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

REGARDING

CANADA'S ANNUAL INFLUENZA VACCINE SUPPLY STRATEGY

**ANY ENQUIRIES REGARDING THE CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT SHOULD BE DIRECTED
TO THE CONTRACTING AUTHORITY:**

**Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC)
Commercial and Consumer Products Directorate
Place du Portage, Phase III, 6B3
11 Laurier Street
Gatineau, QC K1A 0S5**

**Attention: Christa Baird
Telephone: 403-991-5231
E-Mail: christa.baird@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Background and Purpose of this Request for Information (RFI)
2. Nature of Request for Information
3. Nature and Format of Responses Requested
4. Response Costs
5. Treatment of Responses
6. Industry Consultation
7. Contents of this RFI
8. Procurement Strategy & Questions to Industry
9. Format of Responses
10. Enquiries
11. Submission of Responses

List of Annexes

Annex "A" - Procurement Strategy & Questions for Vaccine Industry

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION REGARDING

CANADA'S ANNUAL INFLUENZA VACCINE SUPPLY STRATEGY

1. Background and Purpose of this Request for Information (RFI)

Canada's requirements for publicly funded Annual Influenza Vaccine supply are currently being met through four (4) contracts awarded in 2011 and 2012. Of these, two (2) contracts, collectively covering the supply of 4.8 M doses annually of seasonal trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (TIV) and including a provision for accessing back-up supply of pandemic vaccine, will expire on March 31, 2015. A third contract, for the supply of a Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV), will also expire March 31, 2015. The fourth contract, for the supply of a minimum of 5 M doses annually of TIV and for the primary supply of pandemic influenza vaccine as and when needed, does not expire until March 31, 2021.

To assist in the decision making process on the procurement strategy, and to ensure an uninterrupted access to a secure supply of Annual Influenza Vaccine, the Government of Canada, working together with provincial and territorial governments, is seeking feedback from industry on Canada's procurement strategy. The development of Canada's procurement strategy was informed, in part, by consultations with the vaccine industry in 2012 and 2013. Suppliers are requested to provide feedback on the procurement strategy as well as to provide responses to the questions in Annex - A.

2. Nature of Request for Information

This is not a bid solicitation. This RFI will not result in the award of any contract. As a result, potential suppliers of any goods or services described in this RFI should not reserve stock or facilities, nor allocate resources, as a result of any information contained in this RFI. Nor will this RFI result in the creation of any source list. Therefore, whether or not any potential supplier responds to this RFI will not preclude that supplier from participating in any future procurement. Also, the procurement of any of the goods and services described in this RFI will not necessarily follow this RFI. This RFI is simply intended to solicit feedback from industry with respect to the matters described in this RFI.

3. Nature and Format of Responses Requested

Respondents are requested to provide their comments, concerns and, where applicable, alternative recommendations regarding how the requirements or objectives described in this RFI could be satisfied. Respondents are also invited to provide comments regarding the content, format and/or organization of any draft documents included in this RFI. Respondents should explain any assumptions they make in their responses.

4. Response Costs

Canada will not reimburse any respondent for expenses incurred in responding to this RFI.

5. Treatment of Responses

Use of Responses:

Responses will not be formally evaluated. However, the responses or a summary thereof will be shared with provinces, territories and federal departments for their individual and joint planning purposes and to develop or modify procurement strategies or any draft documents contained in this RFI. Canada will review all responses received by the RFI closing date. Canada may, in its discretion, review responses received after the RFI closing date.

Review Team:

A review team composed of representatives of the client (where applicable) and PWGSC will review the responses. Canada reserves the right to hire any independent consultant, or use any Government resources that it considers necessary to review any response. Not all members of the review team will necessarily review all responses.

Confidentiality:

Respondents should mark any portions of their response that they consider proprietary or confidential. Canada will handle the responses in accordance with the *Access to Information Act*.

6. Industry Consultation:

- (a) Canada will hold teleconferences with respondents who indicate in their responses that they wish to participate in a follow-up meeting. Canada currently anticipates holding any such teleconferences between October 21st and 23rd, 2014.
- (b) This consultation with industry is designed to allow interested influenza vaccine manufacturers the opportunity to discuss Canada's procurement strategy with members of the Federal / Provincial / Territorial (FPT) Vaccine Supply Working Group (VSWG) together with other FPT representatives as appropriate (such as members of the Canadian Immunization Committee) and, potentially, members of the National Advisory Committee on Immunization's (NACI) Influenza Working Group.
- (c) In order to allow PWGSC time to establish the schedule for teleconferences, respondents are requested to contact the Contracting Authority no later than October 10, 2014 (refer to Item 11), together with a list of the individuals from their organization who would like to participate in the teleconference.
- (d) Participants will be allotted 1hr for their teleconference.
- (e) Suppliers are to provide an electronic copy of their response to the Contracting Authority by October 10, 2014.

7. Contents of this RFI

- (a) This document remains a work in progress and respondents should not assume that new clauses or requirements will not be added to any bid solicitation that is ultimately published by Canada. Nor should respondents assume that none of the clauses or requirements will be deleted or revised. Comments regarding any aspect of the draft document are welcome.
- (b) This RFI contains specific questions addressed to the industry.

8. Procurement Strategy & Questions to Industry

Please refer to Annex A.

9. Format of Responses

- (a) **Cover Page:** If the response includes multiple volumes, respondents are requested to indicate on the front cover page of each volume the title of the response, the solicitation number, the volume number and the full legal name of the respondent.
- (b) **Title Page:** The first page of each volume of the response, after the cover page, should be the title page, which should contain:
 - i. the title of the respondent's response and the volume number;

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- ii. the name and address of the respondent;
 - iii. the name, address and telephone number of the respondent's contact;
 - iv. the date; and
 - v. the RFI number.

(c) Number of Copies: Canada requests that respondents submit 2 copies of their responses.

10. Enquiries

Because this is not a bid solicitation, Canada will not necessarily respond to enquiries in writing or by circulating answers to all potential suppliers. However, respondents with questions regarding this RFI may direct their enquiries to:

Contracting Authority: Christa Baird
E-mail Address: Christa.Baird@pwgsc.gc.ca
Telephone: (403) 991-5231

11. Submission of Responses

- (a) Industry Consultation:** Suppliers interested in participating in the Industry Consultation must provide notice of that interest to the Contracting Authority no later than 16:00 EST on October 10, 2014. An electronic copy of the presentation must be provided to the Contracting Authority no later than October 10, 2014.
- (b) Time and Place for Submission of Responses:** Suppliers who do not wish to participate in the Industry Consultation but are interested in providing a written response should submit an electronic copy of their response by 14:00 EST on October 10, 2014 to the Contracting Authority.
- (c) Responsibility for Timely Delivery:** Each respondent is solely responsible for ensuring its response is delivered on time to the correct location.
- (d) Identification of Response:** Each respondent should ensure that its name and return address, the solicitation number and the closing date appear legibly on the outside of the response.

ANNEX A

Part 1 - Procurement Strategy

Public Works and Governments Services Canada (PWGSC) on behalf of Canada, Provinces and Territories intends to solicit bids and award contract(s) for a national requirement for the provision of various formats and possibly formulations for Annual Influenza Vaccine commencing fiscal year April 1, 2015.

Canada's Preliminary Annual Influenza Strategy is:

(1) General Population:

- Issue a competitive solicitation for inactivated annual influenza vaccine for general population, aged 6 months and older. It has not been determined yet if this solicitation will be for trivalent (TIV), quadrivalent (QIV) or both QIV and TIV influenza vaccine.
- Award up to two contracts for a one year period, with two additional one-year option periods.
- Due to on-going discussions and meetings within each client's province, territory or federal department with respect to available formulations (TIV & QIV) it is anticipated that contract(s) will be awarded no later than May 1, 2015 with suppliers being notified of annual contract quantities for the first year of the contract by May 31, 2015.

(2) Quadrivalent live attenuated vaccine:

- Negotiate and consider the award of a sole source contract for annual influenza vaccine which is a quadrivalent live attenuated influenza vaccine with AstraZeneca Canada Inc (Vaccine: Flumist). This vaccine will primarily be used for persons aged 2-17 years old. It is estimated that this product represents no more than 5% of Canada's total demand for Annual Influenza Vaccine.
- Term: One year contract with two additional one-year option periods.

(3) Targeted Vaccine for 65+:

- Negotiate and consider the award of a sole source contract for annual influenza vaccine which is an adjuvanted trivalent influenza vaccine with Novartis (Vaccine: Fluad). This vaccine will be used for persons aged 65 years and older. It is estimated that this product represents no more than 5% of Canada's total demand for Annual Influenza Vaccine.
- Term: One year contract with two additional one-year option periods.

Part 2 - Questions for Vaccine Industry

1. In order for provincial, territorial and federal governments to consider QIV annual influenza vaccine, suppliers of QIV annual influenza vaccine are requested to provide an estimated price for QIV, which can be used for budgeting purposes. Without this information QIV may not be given consideration. As this is not a solicitation and no contracts will be awarded from this request for information, the pricing provided will not be considered a guarantee under future requirements.

(a) QIV Multi-dose Vial

Thimerosal Free: Yes _____ No _____

Estimated Price per Dose:

0-1M doses = \$ _____

1,000,001 - 2M doses = \$ _____

Over 2M doses = \$ _____

(b) QIV Pre-filled Syringe

Thimerosal Free: Yes _____ No _____

Estimated Price per Dose:

0-1M doses = \$ _____

1,000,001 - 2M doses = \$ _____

Over 2M doses = \$ _____

(c) QLAIV Format: _____

Thimerosal Free: Yes _____ No _____

Estimated Price per Dose:

0-1M doses = \$ _____

1,000,001 - 2M doses = \$ _____

Over 2M doses = \$ _____

2. In order to consider all available formulations, it is anticipated that contract(s) may only be awarded between April and May 2015. As final quantities are typically only provided by the end of _____ may each year for the upcoming season, please comment if the timing of the contract award(s) _____ and notification of quantities will have an impact, if at all, on fall deliveries.

3. If there is continued demand for TIV over the next three years, would there be interest in submitting a bid for this period of time?

(a) If yes, would it depend on the quantity? What quantity?

(b) If yes, what is the estimated price? As this is not a solicitation and no contracts will be awarded from this request for information, the pricing provided will not be considered a guarantee under future requirements.

(i) TIV Multi-dose Vial

Estimated Price per Dose:

0-1M doses = \$ _____

1,000,001 - 2M doses = \$ _____

Over 2M doses = \$ _____

(ii) TIV Pre-filled Syringe

Estimated Price per Dose:

0-1M doses = \$ _____

1,000,001 - 2M doses = \$ _____

Over 2M doses = \$ _____

(iii) Adjuvanted TIV Format: _____

Estimated Price per Dose:

0-1M doses = \$ _____

1,000,001 - 2M doses = \$ _____

Over 2M doses = \$ _____

(iv) High Dose TIV Format: _____

Estimated Price per Dose:

0-1M doses = \$ _____

1,000,001 - 2M doses = \$ _____

Over 2M doses = \$ _____