

Request for Proposal (RFP) # 01C15-15-S035

FOR THE PROVISION OF

**Quality Analyses for the Cereal Quality Laboratory
(CQL)**

for

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)

Contracting Authority:

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GENERAL INFORMATION

1.0 PROJECT SUMMARY

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada has a requirement for the services of a firm to manage a portfolio of issued patents which involves monitoring the deadlines for annual maintenance fees in various jurisdictions, notifying AAFC of these maintenance fees, sending reminders, and paying the maintenance fees on AAFC's behalf.

2.0 SECURITY REQUIREMENTS

There is no security requirements for this contract.

3.0 INTERPRETATION

- 2.1 In the Request for proposal "RFP", "Canada", "Crown", "Her Majesty", "the Government" or "Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada" or "AAFC" means Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada, as represented by the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food;
- 2.2 "Contract" or "Resulting Contract" means the written agreement between Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and a contractor, comprising the General Conditions (set out in Appendix A of this RFP) and any supplemental general conditions specified in this RFP and every other document specified or referred to in any of them as forming part of the Contract, all as amended by agreement of the Parties from time to time;
- 2.3 "Contracting Authority or authorized representative" means the AAFC official, identified in Part 3, Article 5.0 of this RFP, responsible for the management of the Contract. Any changes to the Contract must be authorized in writing by the Contracting Authority. The Contractor is not to perform Work in excess of or outside the scope of the Contract based on verbal or written requests or instructions from any government personnel other than the aforementioned AAFC official;
- 2.4 "Contractor", means the person or entity whose name appears on the signature page of the Contract and who is to supply goods or services to Canada under the Contract;
- 2.5 "Minister" means the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food or anyone authorized to act on his/her behalf;
- 2.6 "Project Authority or authorized representative" means the AAFC official, identified in Part 3, Article 6.0 of this RFP, responsible for all matters concerning a) the technical content of the Work under the Contract; b) any proposed changes to the scope of the Work, but any resulting change can only be confirmed by a Contract amendment issued by the Contracting Authority; c) inspection and acceptance of all Work performed as detailed in the Statement of Work, and; review and inspection of all invoices submitted;
- 2.7 "Proposal" means an offer, submitted in response to a request from a Contracting Authority, that constitutes a solution to the problem, requirement or objective in the request;

- 2.8. "Bidder" means a person or entity submitting a Proposal in response to this RFP;
- 2.9 "Work" means the whole of the activities, services, materials, equipment, software, matters and things required to be done, delivered or performed by the Contractor in accordance with the terms of this RFP.

PART 1: BIDDER INSTRUCTIONS, INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

1.0 CONTRACTUAL CAPACITY

- 1.1 The Bidder must have the legal capacity to enter into legally binding contracts. If the Bidder is a sole proprietorship, a partnership or a corporate body, the Bidder shall provide a statement indicating the laws under which it is registered or incorporated together with the registered or corporate name and place of business and the country where the controlling interest/ownership of the organization is located as per Appendix E of this RFP.

2.0 ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 2.1 Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada will only consider Proposals which accept Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's terms and conditions.
- 2.2 The General Conditions attached in Appendix A and those set out in Part 3 of this RFP shall form part of any Resulting Contract.

3.0 INCURRING COST

- 3.1 The cost to prepare the Proposal will not be reimbursed by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.
- 3.2 No cost incurred before receipt of a signed Contract or specified written authorization from the Contracting Authority can be charged to any Resulting Contract.

4.0 ENQUIRIES - SOLICITATION STAGE

- 4.1 All enquiries or issues concerning this solicitation must be submitted in writing to the Contracting Authority named on the cover page of the RFP. It is the responsibility of the Bidder to obtain clarification of the requirements contained herein, if necessary prior to submitting a proposal.
- 4.2 Enquiries and issues must be received by the Contracting Authority no later than **twenty-two** (22) calendar days prior to the solicitation closing date specified herein to allow sufficient time to provide a response. Enquiries or issues received after that time may not be able to be answered prior to the solicitation closing date.
- 4.3 To ensure consistency and quality of information provided to Bidders, the Contracting Authority will provide, simultaneously to all Bidders any information with respect to **significant** enquiries received and the replies to such enquiries without revealing the sources of the enquiries.
- 4.4 All enquiries and other communications with government officials throughout the solicitation period are to be directed **ONLY** to the Contracting Authority. Noncompliance with this condition during the proposal solicitation period may (for that reason alone) result in disqualification of a Proposal.

- 4.5 Meetings will not be held with individual bidders prior to the closing date/time of this RFP, unless otherwise specified.
- 4.6 Bidders shall not place any conditions or make any assumptions that attempt to limit or otherwise modify the Scope of Work pursuant to the Statement of Work (Appendix B)

5.0 RIGHTS OF CANADA

- 5.1 Canada reserves the right to:
1. Accept any Proposal in whole or in part, without prior negotiation;
 2. Reject any or all Proposals received in response to this RFP;
 3. Cancel and/or re-issue this RFP at any time;
 4. Ask the Bidder to substantiate any claim made in the Proposal;
 5. Enter into negotiations with one or more Bidders on any or all aspects of their Proposals;
 6. Award one or more Contracts;
 7. Retain all Proposals submitted in response to this RFP.

6.0 SOLE PROPOSAL - PRICE SUPPORT

In Canada's experience, bidders will from time to time propose prices at the time of bidding that they later refuse to honour, on the basis that these prices do not allow them to recover their own costs and/or make a profit. When evaluating the prices for professional services bid, Canada may, but will have no obligation to, require price support for any prices proposed. Examples of price support that Canada would consider satisfactory include:

1. documentation (such as billing records) that shows that the Bidder has recently provided and invoiced another customer (with whom the Bidder deals at arm's length) for services similar to the services that would be provided under a resulting contract, and the fees charged are equal to or less than the price offered to Canada (to protect the privacy of the customer, the Bidder may black out the customer's name and personal information on the invoice submitted to Canada);
2. a signed contract between the Bidder and an individual qualified (based on the qualifications described in this bid solicitation) to provide services under a resulting contract where the amount payable under that contract by the Bidder to the resource is equal to or less than the price bid;
3. a signed contract with a subcontractor who will perform the work under any resulting contract, which provides that the required services will be provided at a price that is equal to or less than the price bid; or
4. details regarding the salary paid to and benefits provided to the individuals employed by the Bidder to provide services, where the amount of compensation, when converted to a per diem or hourly rate (as applicable), is equal to or less than the rate bid for that resource category.

Once Canada requests substantiation of the prices bid, it is the sole responsibility of the Bidder to submit information (either the information described in the examples above, or other information that demonstrates that it will be able to recover its own costs based on

the prices it has proposed) that will allow Canada to determine whether it can rely, with confidence, on the Bidder's ability to provide the required services at the prices bid, while, at a minimum, recovering its own costs. Where Canada determines that the information provided by the Bidder does not demonstrate the Bidder's ability to recover its own costs in providing the prices bid, Canada may, at their sole discretion declare the bid non-compliant.

7.0 MANDATORY CLAUSES

7.1 Where the words “**must**”, “**shall**” or “**will**” appear in this RFP, the clause is to be considered as a mandatory requirement.

8.0 DEBRIEFING

8.1 After contract award, bidders may request a debriefing on the results of the bid solicitation process. Bidders should make the request to the Contracting Authority within the timeframe specified in the contract award notice. The debriefing may be in writing, by telephone or in person at the discretion of the Contracting Authority.

9.0 OFFICE OF THE PROCUREMENT OMBUDSMAN

If you have issues or concerns regarding the solicitation, you have the option of raising them with the department or with the Office of the Procurement Ombudsman (OPO). The Office of the Procurement Ombudsman was established by the Government of Canada to provide an independent avenue for suppliers to raise complaints regarding the award of contracts under \$25,000 for goods and under \$100,000 for services. You have the option of raising issues or concerns regarding the solicitation, or the award resulting from it, with the OPO by contacting them by telephone at 1-866-734-5169 or by e-mail at boa.opo@boa.opo.gc.ca. You can also obtain more information on the OPO services available to you at their website at www.opo-boa.gc.ca.

PART 2: PROPOSAL PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS & EVALUATION PROCEDURES

1.0 APPLICABLE LAWS

- 1.1 The Contract shall be interpreted and governed, and the relations between the parties, determined by the laws in force in the Province of Manitoba.
- 1.2 In their bid submission, bidders may, at their discretion, substitute the applicable laws of a Canadian province or territory of their choice without affecting the validity of their proposal, by deleting the Canadian province specified in the previous paragraph and inserting the Canadian province or territory of their choice. If no change is made, the bidder acknowledges the applicable law specified is acceptable to the Bidder.

2.0 SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL

- 2.1 Proposals must be submitted in hard copy as described in Article 3.0.

Due to the nature of this RFP electronic transmission of proposal by such means as electronic mail or facsimile to the Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food is not considered to be practical and therefore will not be accepted.

- 2.2 The proposal **MUST** be delivered to and received by the Contracting Authority named on the cover page of the RFP no later than **January 14th, 2015 AT 12:00 PM CST**. The outside of the envelope containing the proposal should include the RFP number found on the cover page of the RFP.
- 2.4 The onus for submitting proposals on time at the specified location rests with the Bidder. It is the Bidder's responsibility to ensure correct delivery of their proposal to the Contracting Authority.
- 2.5 The Bidders are advised that, due to security measures for building visitors, arrangements should be made in advance with the Contracting Authority for any planned in-person delivery of a proposal. Any planned **in-person delivery of proposal must be between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Monday through Friday** except on Government holidays and weekends. Failure to do so may result in late receipt of a proposal.
- 2.6 Proposals submitted in response to this RFP will not be returned.

3.0 PROPOSAL PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 The proposal **must** be structured in **THREE SEPARATELY SEALED ENVELOPES** as indicated below:

Section 1	Technical Proposal (with no reference to price)	2 original hard copy and 1 electronic copy on CD or USB
Section 2	Financial Proposal	1 original hard copy

Section 3	Certifications	1 original hard copy
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3.2 The Bidder may **submit a proposal in either official language.**

3.3 Each copy of the proposal is to include the Bidder’s legal entity name, the name of the Bidder’s contact, address, telephone number, facsimile number, email address and the RFP Number.

4.0 PREPARATION OF TECHNICAL PROPOSAL (Section 1)

4.1 In the Technical Proposal, the Bidder should demonstrate its understanding of the requirements of the **Statement of Work Appendix “B”**, as well as demonstrate how the Bidder will meet the requirements of the **Evaluation Procedures and Criteria Appendix “D”**.

4.2 Security Requirements

There is no security requirements for this contract.

5.0 PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL PROPOSAL (Section 2)

In the Financial Proposal, the Bidder shall provide a firm rate to provide the services requested in accordance with the Statement of Work **Appendix B**.

The requirements of the Financial Proposal are detailed in Appendix D, Evaluations Procedures and Criteria.

Prices shall not appear in any area of the proposal except in the Financial Proposal.

6.0 CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS (Section 3)

In order to be awarded a contract, the certifications attached in **Appendix “E”** will be required. The certifications should be submitted with the proposal. Canada may declare a bid non-responsive if the certifications are not submitted or completed as required. Where Canada intends to reject a proposal pursuant to this paragraph, the Contracting Authority will so inform the Bidder and provide the Bidder with a time frame within which to meet the requirement. Failure to comply with the request of the Contracting Authority and meet the requirement within that time frame period will render the proposal non-responsive.

Compliance with the certifications the Bidder provides to Canada is subject to verification by Canada. The Contracting Authority shall have the right to ask for additional information to verify that the Bidder is compliant with the applicable certifications before and after award of a contract. Any certification made by the Bidder that is determined to be untrue, whether made knowingly or unknowingly, or any failure to comply with the certifications or comply with the request of the Contracting Authority for additional

request of the Contracting Authority for additional information, will render the bid non-responsive.

7.0 EVALUATION PROCEDURES

- 7.1 Proposals will be evaluated in accordance with the Evaluation Procedures and Criteria specified in **Appendix D**. Proposals received will be compared separately against the evaluation criteria identified therein for the total requirement described in this RFP and in conjunction with the accompanying Statement of **Work (Appendix B)**.
- 7.2 An evaluation team composed of representatives of the Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada will evaluate the Proposals on behalf of Canada.
- 7.3 The evaluation team reserves the right, but is not obligated, to perform any of the following tasks:
- a) seek clarification or verification from bidders regarding any or all information provided by them with respect to the bid solicitation;
 - b) contact any or all references supplied by bidders to verify and validate any information submitted by them;
 - c) request, before award of any contract, specific information with respect to bidders' legal status;
 - d) verify any information provided by bidders through independent research, use of any government resources or by contacting third parties;
 - e) interview, at the sole costs of bidders, any bidder and/or any or all of the resources proposed by bidders to fulfill the requirement of the bid solicitation.

8.0 REQUESTS FOR PROPOSAL AMENDMENT(S)

- 8.1 Any modifications to this RFP will be made through an amendment which will be posted publicly via GETS. (Government Electronic Tendering System)

PART 3: RESULTING CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Upon a Contract being awarded pursuant to RFP # 01C15-15-S035, the following Terms and Conditions shall form part of the Resulting Contract:

1.0 GENERAL CONDITIONS

1.1 The General Conditions attached in **Appendix A** shall form part of any Resulting Contract.

2.0 REQUIREMENT

2.1 The contractor will provide the services identified in Appendix B, Statement of Work.

2.2 The Contractor shall maintain, for the duration of the Contract, a designated single point of contact, hereafter referred to as a Contractor Representative, dedicated to managing the Contract.

3.0 SECURITY REQUIREMENTS

There is no security requirements for this contract.

4.0 CONTRACT PERIOD

4.1 The Contract shall be from contract award to November 1, 2015.

4.2 The Contractor grants to Canada the irrevocable option to extend the duration of the Contract by up to one (1) additional one (1) year periods under the same terms and conditions.

4.2.1 Canada may exercise this option at any time by sending a notice to the Contractor prior to the Contract expiry date.

4.2.2 The Contractor agrees that, during the extended period of the Contract resulting from Canada's exercise of its option, the cost will be in accordance with the provisions in Appendix C of the Contract.

4.2.3 The option may only be exercised by the Contracting Authority and will be evidenced for administration purposes only, through a written Contract amendment.

5.0 CONTRACTING AUTHORITY

5.1 The Contracting Authority is:

Name: Trevor Hardman
Title: Procurement Advisor
Address: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
400-303 Main St.

Winnipeg, MB R3C 3G7
Tel.: 204 259-4095
Fax: 204 259-4173
E-mail: trevor.hardman@agr.gc.ca

- 5.2 The Contracting Authority (or authorized representative) is responsible for the management of the Contract. Any changes to the Contract must be authorized in writing by the Contracting Authority. The Contractor is not to perform Work in excess of or outside the scope of the Contract based on verbal or written requests or instructions from any government personnel other than the aforementioned officer.

6.0 PROJECT AUTHORITY

- 6.1 The Project Authority for the Contract is:

The contact information for the Project Authority will be provided at time of contract award.

- 6.2 The Project Authority, or authorized representative, is responsible for:

1. All matters concerning the technical content of the Work under the Contract;
2. Defining any proposed changes to the scope of the Work, but any resulting change can only be confirmed by a Contract amendment issued by the Contracting Authority;
3. Inspection and acceptance of all Work performed as detailed in the Statement of Work and;
4. Review and approve all invoices submitted.

7.0 CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE

- 7.1 The Contractor Representative for the Contract is:

The contact information for the Contractor Representative will be provided at time of contract award.

- 7.2 The duties and responsibilities of the Contractor Representative shall include the following:

1. Responsible for the overall management of the Contract;
2. Ensure that the Contract is administered in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract;
3. Act as a single point of contact to resolve any contractual disputes that may arise. The Contract Representative must have direct access to the level of management within the Contractor's organization vested with the decision-making authority for contractual matters;
4. Shall be established as the only recognized individual from the Contractor's organization to speak on behalf of the Contractor for purposes of Contract management;

5. Monitor all resources that are providing services/deliverables in accordance with the Contract;
6. Liaise with the Project Authority on all matters concerning technical aspects of the Work and performance of its resources; and
7. Manage the transition of any potential resource(s) turnover during the period of the Work.

8.0 PRIORITY OF DOCUMENTS

8.1 The documents specified below form part of and are incorporated into the Contract. If there is a discrepancy between the wordings of any documents which appear on the list, the wording of the document which first appears on the list shall prevail over the wording of any document which subsequently appears on the list:

1. These Terms and Conditions;
2. The Statement of Work, Appendix B hereof;
3. The General Conditions, Appendix A hereof;
4. Basis of Payment, Appendix C hereof;
5. Certification Requirements, Appendix E
6. Request for Proposal number 01C15-15-S035
7. Contractor's Proposal dated *(to be inserted at contract award)*.

9.0 BASIS FOR CANADA'S OWNERSHIP OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

In this section of the RFP,

- 9.1 "Material" means anything that is created or developed by the Contractor as part of the Work under the Contract, and in which copyright subsists, but does not include computer programs and related software documentation.
- 9.2 Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada has determined that any intellectual property arising from the performance of the Work under the Contract will vest in Canada, on the following grounds:

Pursuant to 6.5 of the Treasury Board Policy on Title to Intellectual Property Arising under Crown Procurement Contracts, Canada has opted to own the intellectual property rights in any Material subject to copyright that is created or developed as part of the Work, with the exception of computer software or any documentation pertaining to such software.

10.0 REPLACEMENT OF PERSONNEL

- 10.1. The Contractor will provide the services of the personnel named in the Contractor's Proposal to perform the Work, unless the Contractor is unable to do so for reasons which are beyond its control.
- 10.2 Should the Contractor at any time be unable to provide their services, the Contractor will contact the Project Authority immediately. In such case, the Contractor is responsible to

provide replacement Contractor or personnel who shall be of similar skills and experience as stated in **the Appendix D, Evaluation Procedures and Criteria.**

- 10.3 The Contractor shall propose replacement personnel for the Project Authorities review within 5 working days (resume and references). The Contractor shall submit, in writing, to the Project Authority the reasons for the removal of personnel from the Work; the name of the proposed replacement person(s); and the qualifications and experience of the proposed replacement person(s). The Project Authority reserves the right to interview any personnel proposed to be assigned to the Work.
- 10.4 Personnel assigned pursuant to the requirements will be capable of performing the Work at a reasonable level of competence. Should any assigned personnel be deemed unsuitable by the Project Authority the Contractor shall provide an immediate replacement of suitable ability that is acceptable to the Project Authority.
- 10.5 The Contractor shall supply competent back-up personnel so that in the event of unforeseen sickness, accident, or any cause which renders a specific individual unavailable, such individuals can be replaced within five (5) working days by a person of like abilities and qualifications.
- 10.6 The resources assigned for the Contract will be measured regularly for quality of services rendered. The measurement will be based on the quality and timeliness of the deliverables specified in the Statement of Work. In the event that quality and deliverables are not produced as and when requested, in any given month, the Crown has the right to request that the Contractor replace the assigned resources immediately, in accordance with Contract clauses included in or referenced in the RFP #01C15-15-S035.
- 10.7 In no event shall the Contractor allow performance of the Work by unauthorized and/or unqualified personnel, whether initially named resources or replacement personnel. In addition, acceptance of any replacements by the Project Authority shall not relieve the Contractor from responsibility for failure to meet the requirements of the Contract.

11.0 This section is intentionally left blank

12.0 DAMAGE TO OR LOSS OF CROWN PROPERTY

- 12.1 The Contractor shall reimburse Canada any cost or expenses due to the damage to or loss of Crown-owned property resulting from the Contract or the carrying out thereof, or shall, upon reasonable notice, promptly repair such damage or substitute such loss to Canada's satisfaction.

13.0 BASIS OF PAYMENT

- 13.1 For the services provided, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada will pay the Contractor in accordance with the Basis of Payment below, and the attached Appendix C (Basis of Payment) for Work performed pursuant to the Contract.
- 13.2 **Ceiling Price:**

The Contractor will be reimbursed for the costs reasonably and properly incurred in the performance of the Work, as determined in accordance with the Basis of Payment detailed in Appendix C, to a ceiling price of \$ _____ (insert amount at contract award). Customs duties are included and the Applicable Taxes are extra.

The ceiling price is subject to downward adjustment so as not to exceed the actual costs reasonably incurred in the performance of the Work and computed in accordance with the Basis of Payment.

2. No increase in the total liability of Canada or in the price of the Work resulting from any design changes, modifications or interpretations of the Work, will be authorized or paid to the Contractor unless these design changes, modifications or interpretations have been approved, in writing, by the Contracting Authority before their incorporation into the Work. The Contractor must not perform any work or provide any service that would result in Canada's total liability being exceeded before obtaining the written approval of the Contracting Authority. The Contractor must notify the Contracting Authority in writing as to the adequacy of this sum as soon as the Contractor considers that the contract funds provided are inadequate for the completion of the Work.

3. If the notification is for inadequate contract funds, the Contractor must provide to the Contracting Authority a written estimate for the additional funds required. Provision of such information by the Contractor does not increase Canada's liability.

14.0 METHOD OF PAYMENT

14.1 One invoice in September and a second invoice in March for the monthly service fees charged by the Contractor.

15.0 INVOICING INSTRUCTIONS

15.1 Payment will only be made pursuant to the general conditions specified in the Appendix A and upon submission of a satisfactory invoice duly supported by specified release documents and other documents called for under the Contract.

15.2 One (1) original of the invoice together with attachments, shall be forwarded to the Project Authority at the address noted in Article 6.0 hereof.

16.0 MANDATORY CERTIFICATIONS

16.1 Compliance with the certifications the Contractor has provided Canada is a condition of the Contract and subject to verification by Canada during the entire period of the Contract. In the event that the Contractor does not comply with any certification or that it is determined that any certification made by the Contractor is untrue, whether made knowingly or unknowingly, the Minister shall have the right, pursuant to the default provisions of the Contract, to terminate the Contract for default.

17.0 NON-PERMANENT RESIDENT *(the non-applicable clause will be deleted at contract award)*

17.1 (CANADIAN CONTRACTOR)

The Contractor must comply with Canadian immigration requirements applicable to foreign nationals entering Canada to work temporarily in fulfillment of the Contract. If the Contractor wishes to hire a foreign national to work in Canada to fulfill the Contract, the Contractor should immediately contact the nearest Service Canada regional office to enquire about Citizenship and Immigration Canada's requirements to issue a temporary work permit to a foreign national. The Contractor is responsible for all costs incurred as a result of non-compliance with immigration requirements.

17.1 (FOREIGN CONTRACTOR)

The Contractor must comply with Canadian immigration legislation applicable to foreign nationals entering Canada to work temporarily in fulfillment of the Contract. If the Contractor wishes to hire a foreign national to work in Canada to fulfill the Contract, the Contractor should immediately contact the nearest Canadian Embassy, Consulate or High Commission in the Contractor's country to obtain instructions, information on Citizenship and Immigration Canada's requirements and any required documents. The Contractor is responsible to ensure that foreign nationals have the required information, documents and authorizations before performing any work under the Contract in Canada. The Contractor is responsible for all costs incurred as a result of non-compliance with immigration requirements.

18.0 INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

18.1 The Contractor is responsible for securing insurance coverage necessary to fulfill its obligation under the Contract and to ensure compliance with any applicable law. The insurance is acquired and maintained by the Contractor is at its own expense and for its own benefit and protection. It does not release the Contractor from or reduce its liability under the Contract.

APPENDIX “A”

See attached.

APPENDIX “B”

1. Background

Due to the closing of the Cereal Research Centre, a decision was made to relocate the Cereal Quality Lab (CQL) to a site at 1054 Pembina Highway. Since crucial upgrades are needed e.g., plumbing, electrical and HVAC, the lab will not become fully functional until the fall of 2015. Assistance is therefore required from another laboratory to ensure that all required Breeder quality tests are totally completed and in a timely manner by the end of the screening season.

2. Objective

- To get assistance from another cereal testing laboratory in order to achieve AAFC breeder test completion goals for the 2014-2015 screening season.
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- To supply the Western Canadian Cereal Breeding Programs with accurate laboratory test data for the ongoing development of high quality early generation breeding lines.
- The end purpose of this objective is to advance experimental lines that exhibit desirable quality traits from one generation to the next and to the Cooperative trials for potential varietal registration.

3. Scope of Work & Conditions

The overall scope of the contract work (tasks and activities) is to perform the following cereal quality tests in a fully equipped cereal chemistry laboratory.

1. Wheat Buhler Milling: on soft and hard wheat and food barley
2. Durum Buhler Milling: on amber durum wheat using a semolina purifier
3. Durum Brabender Milling: on amber durum wheat using a semolina purifier
4. Wheat Brabender Milling: on soft and hard wheat and food barley
5. Oven Moisture Determinations: on grain and/or flour
6. Alveographs: on soft white spring wheat flour and durum semolina
7. Farinographs: on hard and soft wheat flour and food barley flour
8. Cookie Test Baking: on soft white spring wheat flour
9. Leco (Nitrogen Combustion) proteins: on grain, flour and/or semolina
10. Mixographs : on hard and soft wheat flour and food barley flour
11. Bread Test Baking: on hard wheat and barley flour
12. Ash Determinations: flour and semolina

Conditions to be met:

- Consistent ambient air temperature and humidity in all flour work areas must be maintained on a daily basis for all testing. During buhler milling, the mill room humidity levels must be controlled and maintained at between 60 – 65% R.H.
- All milled flour extractions require an end moisture content of between 13.0 - 15.0% and all buhler milled wheat flour yield results are to be corrected to a 14.0% moisture basis when recorded.
- The contractor must be able to perform all the required tests with the associated equipment specified for each as described in Sec.3, 1 – 12 above.
- The contractor must have the resources and capacity to complete specific Breeder test work on or before a date specified by the Test Coordinator (Breeder).
- The policy/operational objective associated with this work is that all Breeder test deadlines are to be met and the final products and resulting data that is produced is of high quality and accuracy.
- The contractor will be advised in advance of laboratory testing requirements for each Breeder test by the CQL via e-mail.
- All final milled flour products is to be stored in poly zip lock bags (4 mil or greater) and properly labelled using CQL lab number identifiers. Flour samples must be kept in storage until it is determined whether or not they get returned to the CQL or discarded.

4. Deliverables and Schedule

The contractor shall be capable of delivering the following products and their associated test values in specific work sets or breeder tests at various times throughout the year as determined by the test coordinator (Breeder).

- Buhler milled and purified semolina on approx. 325 Durum Wheat samples – 1.0 Kg or less/sample
- Brabender milled and purified semolina on approx. 675 samples – 500 grams or less/sample
- Buhler milled and dusted flour on approx. 60 samples of Food Barley – 1.0 Kg or less/

sample

- Bühler milled and rebolted flour on approx. 30 samples of Soft White Wheat – 1.0 Kg or less/sample
- Brabender milled flour on approx. 340 samples of Hard White, CPS and Winter Wheat– 50 - 80 grams /sample
- Brabender milled flour on approx. 800 samples of Soft White Wheat– 50 - 80 grams /sample
- Mixograph test data on 800 samples or more of brabender and buhler milled flour
- Oven moisture data on approx. 100 flour and/or grain samples
- Pasta Colour (L,a,b) test data on approx. 50 buhler milled semolina samples
- Alveograph test data on 50 or more semolina and soft white buhler milled flour samples
- Laboratory bread test baking on 50 or more buhler milled flour samples
- Laboratory cookie test baking on 10 or more buhler milled flour samples
- Farinograph test data on approx. 100 buhler milled flour samples – 50 grams/sample
- Ash Determinations on at least 100 semolina and buhler milled flour samples
- Laboratory test baking (bread) on approx. 80 buhler milled flour samples
- Laboratory test baking (cookies) on approx. 20 buhler milled flour samples
- Leco Protein data on approx. 100 flour and grain samples

-The outcome of this service is to produce high quality end use products (e.g., bread, flour, cookies) and the associated data parameters for each laboratory lab test performed.

-Deadline requirements for test work completion vary depending on the generation level of the Breeder tests. Advance notice will be supplied with Breeder deadline expectations before test samples are sent out.

-All resulting data for each Breeder test must be reported in excel format using CQL test sample lab identifier numbers. For data delivery, results must be sent electronically to the Project Authority of the CQL for review and subsequent delivery to the applicable Breeder.

- A Work Breakdown Structure is not required for this contract.

6. Language of Work

English is to be the language of work for all correspondence throughout the contract tenure.

7. Resources and Level of Effort

Resources and the specialized services for the analytical testing described in # 3 above. Role and responsibility of each required resource type is described in # 4 above. Minimum number of contract workers to complete the contracted tasks by due date is approximately 8 full time workers.

8. Location of Work and Travel

Work is to be performed in the Country of Canada. Samples for testing will be shipped at no charge to the laboratory performing the work. All sample shipping costs will be paid for by the sender.

9. Security Requirements

No security requirements are required for this work as this work will be performed off site at another laboratory. The lab is to follow AACC or modified AACC testing protocols for all the specified work.

- The contractors will not require access to any sensitive AAFC documents to perform the specified tasks.
- No resources whatsoever will require access to any protected or secret documents.
- No information will be taken off AAFC premises. Data is to be supplied to AAFC from the contractor after the work is completed

10. Duration/Period of Contract

Work will commence upon Contract Award and will conclude on or before end of June 30, 2015.

11. Payment Schedule/Basis of Payment

Single payment is to be made upon project completion.

13. Project Authority:

TBA

The Contractor shall report and provide deliverables to the Project Authority, that being Dave Niziol. The Project Authority is responsible for all matters concerning the technical content of the Work under this contract. Any proposed changes to the scope of the work are to be discussed with the Project Authority, but any resulting change can only be confirmed by a contract amendment issued by the Contracting Authority.

14. Contracting Authority:

Any enquiries regarding the content of this document shall be directed to:

Trevor Hardman
Procurement Advisor
400-303 Main St.
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3G7
Telephone: 204 259-4095
E-mail address: trevor.hardman@agr.gc.ca

The Contracting Authority is responsible for the management of this Contract. Any changes to the Contract must be authorized in writing by the Contracting Authority. The Contractor is not to perform work in excess of or outside the scope of this Contract based on verbal or written requests or instructions from any government personnel other than the aforementioned officer.

APPENDIX “C”

BASIS OF PAYMENT

1.0 General

Payment shall be in accordance with **article 14.0 of Part 3, Method of Payment.**

All deliverables FOB destination, Canadian custom duties and excise tax (if applicable). If applicable, Applicable Taxes for the labour will be shown separately.

2.0 Pricing Basis

The Contractor shall be paid in accordance with the following for work performed under the Contract.

To be filled in at contract award based on rates provided.

Definition of a Day/Proration: A day is defined as 7.5 hours exclusive of meal breaks. Payment will be for days actually worked with no provision for annual leave, statutory holidays and sick leave. Time worked ("Days_worked", in the formula below) which is less than a day will be prorated to reflect actual time worked in accordance with the following formula:

$$Days_worked = \frac{Hours_Worked}{7.5_hours_per_day}$$

Travel and Living Expenses

No travel will be reimbursed under this contract

APPENDIX D

EVALUATION PROCEDURES & CRITERIA

1.0 METHOD OF SELECTION – LOWEST COST (ONCE MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN MET)

- 1.1 The evaluation process is designed to identify the most qualified contractor to provide services as stipulated in the Statement of Work (Appendix B).
- 1.2 This section comprises the detailed Proposal requirements that will be used to evaluate Bidders' responses to the RFP.
- 1.3 The mandatory requirements under section 2.0 will be evaluated on a compliant/non-compliant basis. The Proposals must include the necessary documentation to demonstrate this compliance.
- 1.4 The selection of the responsive Proposal will be made on the basis of the LOWEST PRICE for the financial proposal.

In the event that two financial proposals are received with the same "lowest price", the contract will be awarded to the Bidder who submitted their bid first.

- 1.4 To be considered Compliant, a Proposal must meet all the mandatory requirements specified in section 2.0 below.
- 1.5 The price of the Proposal will be evaluated in CANADIAN DOLLARS, Applicable Taxes excluded, FOB destination for goods/services, Customs Duties and Excise Taxes included.
- 1.6 Failure of a Proposal to provide information in sufficient detail and depth to permit evaluation against the identified criteria may render a Proposal non-responsive. **All Bidders are advised that only listing experience without providing any supporting data to describe where and how such experience was obtained will not be considered to be "demonstrated" for the purpose of the evaluation. All professional experience must be fully demonstrated in the Proposal (i.e., dates, number of years and months of experience).**
- 1.7 The Bidders acknowledge and agree that Canada is not responsible to search for, and therefore evaluate, information that is not properly referenced or is not otherwise provided in accordance with the Proposal Preparation Instructions in Part 2, Article 3.0.
- 1.8 Bidders shall not place any conditions or make any assumptions that attempt to limit or otherwise modify the scope of Work pursuant to the Statement of Work (Appendix B).

2.0 MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

There are no addition mandatory requirements.

3.0 POINT RATED REQUIREMENTS

There is no point rated requirements on this RFP.

4.0 FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

4.1 The Bidder must complete the table (see attachment) which will form the Financial Proposal.

5.0 DETERMINATION OF SUCCESSFUL BIDDER

The Bidders will be ranked according to the lowest price provided they meet the mandatories. The Compliant Bidder with the lowest cost will be awarded the contract.

APPENDIX E

CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The following certification requirements apply to this Request for Proposal (RFP) document. Bidders should include, with their proposal, a signed copy of this certification below.

A) LEGAL ENTITY AND CORPORATE NAME

Please certify that the Bidder is a legal entity that can be bound by the contract and sued in court and indicate **i)** whether the Bidder is a corporation, partnership or sole proprietorship, **ii)** the laws under which the Bidder was registered or formed, **iii)** together with the registered or corporate name. Also identify **iv)** the country where the controlling interest/ownership (name if applicable) of the Bidder is located.

- i) _____
- ii) _____
- iii) _____
- iv) _____

Any resulting Contract may be executed under the following **i)** corporate full legal name and **ii)** at the following place of business (complete address) **iii)** telephone and fax number and email:

- i) _____
- ii) _____
- iii) _____

Name

Signature

Date

B) EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE CERTIFICATION

We certify that all statements made with regard to the education and the experience of individuals proposed for completing the subject Work are accurate and factual, and we are aware that the Minister reserves the right to verify any information provided in this regard and that untrue statements may result in the proposal being declared **non-responsive** or in other action which the Minister may consider appropriate.

Name

Signature

Date

C) PRICE/RATE CERTIFICATION

"We hereby certify that the price quoted have been computed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applicable to all like services rendered and sold by us, that such prices are not in excess of the lowest prices charged anyone else, including our most favoured customer for like quality and quantity so the services, does not include an element of profit on the sale in excess of that normally obtained by us on the sale of services of like quality and quantity, and does not include any provision for discounts or commissions to selling agents".

Name

Signature

Date

D) VALIDITY OF PROPOSAL

It is requested that proposals submitted in response to this Request for Proposal be:

- valid in all aspects, including price, for not less than one hundred and twenty (120) days from the closing date of this RFP; and,
- signed by an authorized representative of the Bidder in the space provided on the RFP; and,
- provide the name and telephone number of a representative who may be contacted for clarification or other matters relating to the Bidder's proposal.

Name

Signature

Date

E) AVAILABILITY AND STATUS OF PERSONNEL

The Bidder certifies that, should it be authorized to provide services under any contract resulting from this RFP, the employees proposed in its proposal will be available to commence performance of the work within a reasonable time from contract award, or within the time specified herein.

If the Bidder has proposed any person in fulfilment of this requirement who is not an employee of the Bidder, the Bidder hereby certifies that it has written permission from such person to propose the services of such person in relation to the work to be performed in fulfilment of this requirement and to submit such person's résumé to the Contracting Authority.

During the proposal evaluation, the Bidder MUST upon the request of the Contracting Authority provide a copy of such written permission, in relation to any or all non-employees proposed. The Bidder agrees that failure to comply with such a request may lead to disqualification of the Bidder's proposal from further consideration.

Name

Signature

Date

F) FORMER PUBLIC SERVANT – STATUS AND DISLCOSURE

Contracts with former public servants (FPS) in receipt of a pension or of a lump sum payment must bear the closest public scrutiny, and reflect fairness in the spending of public funds. In order to comply with Treasury Board policies and directives on contracts with FPS, bidders must provide the information required below.

Definitions

For the purposes of this clause, "former public servant" is any former member of a department as defined in the Financial Administration Act, R.S., 1985, c. F-11, a former member of the Canadian Armed Forces or a former member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. A former public servant may be:

- a. an individual;
- b. an individual who has incorporated;
- c. a partnership made of former public servants; or
- d. a sole proprietorship or entity where the affected individual has a controlling or major interest in the entity.

"lump sum payment period" means the period measured in weeks of salary, for which payment has been made to facilitate the transition to retirement or to other employment as a result of the implementation of various programs to reduce the size of the Public Service. The lump sum payment period does not include the period of severance pay, which is measured in a like manner.

"pension" means, a pension or annual allowance paid under the Public Service Superannuation Act (PSSA), R.S., 1985, c.P-36, and any increases paid pursuant to the Supplementary Retirement Benefits Act, R.S., 1985, c.S-24 as it affects the PSSA. It does not include pensions payable pursuant to the Canadian Forces Superannuation Act, R.S., 1985, c.C-17, the Defence Services Pension Continuation Act, 1970, c.D-3, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Pension Continuation Act , 1970, c.R-10, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Superannuation Act, R.S., 1985, c.R-11, the Members

of Parliament Retiring Allowances Act , R.S., 1985, c.M-5, and that portion of pension payable to the Canada Pension Plan Act, R.S., 1985, c.C-8.

Former Public Servant in Receipt of a Pension

As per the above definitions, is the Bidder a FPS in receipt of a pension? Yes () No ()

If so, the Bidder must provide the following information, for all FPS in receipt of a pension, as applicable:

- a. name of former public servant;
- b. date of termination of employment or retirement from the Public Service.

By providing this information, Bidders agree that the successful Bidder's status, with respect to being a former public servant in receipt of a pension, will be reported on departmental websites as part of the published proactive disclosure report.

Work Force Reduction Program

Is the Bidder a FPS who received a lump sum payment pursuant to the terms of a work force reduction program? Yes () No ()

If so, the Bidder must provide the following information:

- a. name of former public servant;
- b. conditions of the lump sum payment incentive;
- c. date of termination of employment;
- d. amount of lump sum payment;
- e. rate of pay on which lump sum payment is based;
- f. period of lump sum payment including start date, end date and number of weeks;
- g. number and amount (professional fees) of other contracts subject to the restrictions of a work force reduction program.

For all contracts awarded during the lump sum payment period, the total amount of fees that may be paid to a FPS who received a lump sum payment is \$5,000, including the Goods and Services Tax or Harmonized Sales Tax.

Name

Signature

Date

G) JOINT VENTURES

- 1.0 In the event of a proposal submitted by a contractual joint venture, the proposal shall be signed by either all members of the joint venture or a statement shall be provided to the

effect that the signatory represents all parties of the joint venture. The following will be completed if applicable:

1. The Bidder represents that the bidding entity is/is not (delete as applicable) a joint venture in accordance with the definition in paragraph 3.
2. A Bidder that is a joint venture represents the following additional information:
 - (a) Type of joint venture (mark applicable choice):
 - Incorporated joint venture
 - Limited partnership joint venture
 - Partnership joint venture
 - Contractual joint venture
 - Other
 - (b) Composition (names and addresses of all members of the joint venture)
3. Definition of joint venture

A joint venture is an association of two or more parties who combine their money, property, knowledge, skills, time or other resources in a joint business enterprise agreeing to share the profits and the losses and each having some degree of control over the enterprise. Joint ventures may be carried on in a variety of legal forms divided into three categories:

 - (a) The incorporated joint venture;
 - (b) The partnership venture;
 - (c) The contractual joint venture where the parties combine their resources in the furtherance of a single business enterprise without actual partnership or corporate designation.
4. The joint venture team arrangement is to be distinguished from other types of Contractor arrangements, such as:
 - (a) Prime Contractor, in which, for example, the purchasing agency contracts directly with a Contractor (prime) who acts as the system assembler and integrator, with major components, assemblies and subsystems normally subcontracted;
 - (b) Associated Contractor, in which for example, the purchasing agency contracts directly with each of the major component suppliers and performs the integration tasks or awards a separate contract for this purpose.
5. If the Contract is awarded to an unincorporated joint venture, all members of the joint venture shall be jointly and severally responsible for the performance of the Contract.

Name

Signature

Date

*More information on the Federal Contractors Program can be found in the Treasury Board Contracting Policy, and in the Supply Manual, link provided below. Note that references to value **INCLUDE** taxes, and **EXCLUDE** option periods.*

<http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/pol/doc-eng.aspx?id=14494§ion=text#appD>
<https://buyandsell.gc.ca/policy-and-guidelines/supply-manual/annex/5/1>

H) FEDERAL CONTRACTORS PROGRAM

Federal Contractors Program for Employment Equity - Bid Certification

By submitting a bid, the Bidder certifies that the Bidder, and any of the Bidder's members if the Bidder is a Joint Venture, is not named on the Federal Contractors Program (FCP) for employment equity "FCP Limited Eligibility to Bid" list (http://www.labour.gc.ca/eng/standards_equity/eq/emp/fcp/list/inelig.shtml) available from Human Resources and Skills Development Canada - Labour's website.

Canada will have the right to declare a bid non-responsive if the Bidder, or any member of the Bidder if the Bidder is a Joint Venture, appears on the "FCP Limited Eligibility to Bid" list at the time of contract award.

Insert the following for requirements estimated at \$1,000,000 and above.

Canada will also have the right to terminate the Contract for default if a Contractor, or any member of the Contractor if the Contractor is a Joint Venture, appears on the "FCP Limited Eligibility to Bid" list during the period of the Contract.

The Bidder must provide the Contracting Authority with a completed Federal Contractors Program for Employment Equity – Certification (below), before contract award. If the Bidder is a Joint Venture, the Bidder must provide the Contracting Authority with a completed annex Federal Contractors Program for Employment Equity-Certification, for each member of the Joint Venture.

PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYMENT EQUITY - CERTIFICATION

I, the Bidder, by submitting the present information to the Contracting Authority, certify that the information provided is true as of the date indicated below. The certifications provided to Canada are subject to verification at all times. I understand that Canada will declare a bid non-responsive, or will declare a contractor in default, if a certification is found to be untrue, whether during the bid evaluation period or during the contract period. Canada will have the right to ask for additional information to verify the Bidder's certifications. Failure to comply with such request by Canada will also render the bid non-responsive or will constitute a default under the Contract.

For further information on the Federal Contractors Program for Employment Equity visit HRSDC-Labour's website.

Date: _____(YYYY/MM/DD) (If left blank, the date will be deemed to be the bid solicitation closing date.)

Complete both A and B.

A. Check only one of the following:

- A1. The Bidder certifies having no work force in Canada.
- A2. The Bidder certifies being a public sector employer.
- A3. The Bidder certifies being a federally regulated employer being subject to the Employment Equity Act.
- A4. The Bidder certifies having a combined work force in Canada of less than 100 employees (combined work force includes: permanent full-time, permanent part-time and temporary employees [temporary employees only includes those who have worked 12 weeks or more during a calendar year and who are not full-time students]).
- A5. The Bidder has a combined workforce in Canada of 100 or more employees; and
- A5.1. The Bidder certifies already having a valid and current Agreement to Implement Employment Equity (AIEE) in place with HRSDC-Labour.

OR

- A5.2. The Bidder certifies having submitted the Agreement to Implement Employment Equity (LAB1168) to HRSDC-Labour. As this is a condition to contract award, proceed to completing the form Agreement to Implement Employment Equity (LAB1168), duly signing it, and transmit it to HRSDC-Labour.

B. Check only one of the following:

- B1. The Bidder is not a Joint Venture.

OR

- B2. The Bidder is a Joint Venture and each member of the Joint Venture must provide the Contracting Authority with a completed annex Federal Contractors Program for Employment Equity - Certification. (Refer to the Joint Venture section of the Standard Instructions)

Name

Signature

Date

The following clause must be inserted in the contract (PART 3) if the FCP is applicable and the requirement is estimated at \$1,000,000 and above.

Federal Contractors Program for Employment Equity - Default by the Contractor

The Contractor understands and agrees that, when an Agreement to Implement Employment Equity (AIEE) exists between the Contractor and HRSDC-Labour, the AIEE must remain valid during the entire period of the Contract. If the AIEE becomes invalid, the name of the Contractor will be added to the "FCP Limited Eligibility to Bid" list. The imposition of such a sanction by HRSDC will constitute the Contractor in default as per the terms of the Contract.