

Question 31:

On page 18 of the RFP, there is mention of a “preliminary draft schedule” prepared by CMHC’s InfoShare project team. Will the CMHC provide a copy of this preliminary draft schedule?

Response:

It is not currently available, but "under development". Below is a high level draft schedule of the major phases of the project.

High level activities	Targeted Start Date	Targeted End Date
Project initiation & planning phase	Jan 2015	June 2015
Project Execution Phase	April 2015	Jan 2017
Deployment readiness: technical readiness(architecture scaling and installation of tools), developing business deployment methodology, training, and support tools	April 2015	July 2015
Rollout to all CMHC	May 2015	Jan 2017
Replacement of FRS with Physical Objects	July 2015	June 2016
Upgrade to CS 2015		July 2015
Project Close-out	Jan 2017	March 2017

Question 32:

The RFP document provided (as per revised version dated April 24 2015) appears to be missing pages or may have an error in the page numbering. Pages 102 to 112 are not included in the RFP document. Please confirm if these pages are missing or if it is simply a page numbering error.

Response:

This is a page numbering error – page number skip from 101 to 113 – nothing is missing

Question 33:

RFP Section 7.5 Financial Cost Sheet Table – Appendix E

Please confirm the following with respect to the pricing requirements and resulting contractual commitment regarding the Financial Cost Sheet Table:

- Resource categories, bill rates, ceiling prices, and additional cost items to be included in the Pricing Tables (for each of the 3 Streams as 3 separate sheets and financial proposals) are all-inclusive and firm ceiling price for the delivery of all goods and services stipulated in the RFP Statement of Work. Please confirm that none of those goods or services will be delivered on a Time and Material basis;

Response

CMHC is looking for per diem rates per candidate and will base the total cost on the expected number of day to fairly compare the Proponents costs.

- Please, confirm that the proponents will be bound to each of the fixed ceiling rates, number of effort days, and resulting dollar amounts for each of the resource category that they will include in the Pricing Table and will not be allowed to exceed those firm commitments (except for mutually agreed on Change Requests);

Response

Correct, the prices in the RFP will form the payment structure in the final agreement.

- Please confirm that Proponents have to include additional cost items in the Pricing Table that will be added to the pricing for professional services for a grand total price and the Proponents will be bound to the fixed ceiling price provided for each of the added cost items; and

Response

Correct – If costs are not listed on the Pricing Table, CMHC expects the Proponents to add lines to provide a complete picture of the costs to provide the services. As listed in section 3.13 All Costs- if the Proponent does not list a cost able item, CMHC will not accept these costs after the agreement is signed. This could lead to an agreement termination if CMHC feels the RFP evaluation outcome would have been different if these costs were included in the bid. As stated in 2.3 i) **Proponents may expand and add to the cost tables to include additional items and pricing.**

- Please, confirm that the proponents have to provide an “explanation” of their costing and pricing approach that will provide CMHC with insight into the effectiveness of the approach and reasonableness of the pricing provided. Any assumptions on which the proponent’s pricing is based on also have to be provided by the Proponents.

Response

Yes, CMHC expects Proponents to detail their costs and itemize each item. Any and all information that helps CMHC understand the costing can only benefit the Proponents to ensure the cost evaluation is done impartially.

Question 34:

We would respectfully request that CMHC revisit and reconsider their decision of declining above request for extension based on the following rational substantiations and practical justifications:

- The actual response time provided to Proponents is precisely 3 weeks and 2 days (rather than the 4 weeks mentioned in the RFP, specifically in the response to Question 9).
- The prescribed 3 weeks and 2 days is for the development, validation and approval of up to 3 proposals (and not only one). Although some of the RFP requirements and evaluation criteria are the same across all 3 streams, the responses to those common requirements have nuances, differences, and variances to be addressed and covered in each of the 3 streams;
- Although 3 weeks and 2 days would likely be sufficient time to respond to Streams 2 and 3, it is definitely not sufficient to respond to Stream 1 that requires addressing extensive requirements and prescriptive evaluation criteria for 20 resources (as opposed to 5 resources for Stream 2 and 6 resources for Stream 3). Furthermore, bidding on all 3 streams involve addressing requirements and criteria for a grand total of 31 resources which requires very substantial effort and time; and

- All 3 streams involve responding to corporate, general, contractual, and financial requirements requiring extensive RFP assessment and bid material development time as well as legal, technical, and financial reviews and approvals through the appropriate levels of management authority in our organization.

Response:

No extension is available for the closing date as CMHC must meet the corporate wide implementation schedule.