

## **ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE**

### **H0168 – BSE Surveillance and Sampling Services**

**The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has a requirement for provision of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) Surveillance and Sampling Services in the province of Nova Scotia.**

The purpose of this Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN) is to signal the government's intention to award a contract for these services to **Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture**, located at **60 Research Drive, Bible Hill, Nova Scotia B6L 2R2**. Before awarding a contract, however, the government would like to provide other suppliers with the opportunity to demonstrate that they are capable of satisfying the requirements set out in this Notice, by submitting a statement of capabilities during the **fifteen (15) calendar day posting period**.

If other potential suppliers submit a statement of capabilities during the fifteen (15) calendar day posting period that meet the requirements set out in the ACAN, the government will proceed to a full tendering process on either the government's electronic tendering service or through traditional means, in order to award the contract.

If no other supplier submits, on or before the closing date, a statement of capabilities meeting the requirements set out in the ACAN, a contract will be awarded to the pre-selected supplier.

### **Background**

On May 20, 2003, a case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), commonly called mad cow disease, was confirmed in an animal born and raised in Canada. On January 9, 2004, the Government of Canada announced it would increase BSE surveillance testing as part of the national BSE response strategy. The CFIA has increased the number of samples collected at the national level to a minimum of 8,000 in 2004, the CFIA has subsequently increased its surveillance to analyze a minimum of 30,000 samples in 2005 and aims to get to 60,000 samples in subsequent years. The CFIA therefore wishes to encourage, through offers of service contracts, the collection of samples in sufficient quantity to meet the objectives of the surveillance program for BSE.

Services required by the CFIA in implementing its surveillance program include those associated with carcass pick up, identification and traceability (record keeping) of selected carcasses, provision and maintenance of a suitable sampling facility and on site handling to present the appropriate samples to the CFIA, as well as those services related to the storage and segregation of carcasses pending determination of BSE status.

The proposed contract period is from *August 15, 2015 to August 14, 2016 with two (2) one-year options.*

The estimated value of the contract, *including the two (2) option periods* is *\$125,100.00* (taxes excluded).

### **Minimum Essential Requirements**

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that it meets the following requirements:

- be located in the province of Nova Scotia;
- have knowledge and experience of the dead stock industry;
- be a valid holder of a permit to transport specified risk materials in accordance with CFIA regulatory requirements;
- demonstrate professional experience in the industry of collection of dead cattle over the past 3 years;
- possess adequate facilities and record keeping capabilities;
- be operated in accordance with federal, provincial and municipal requirements;
- have the ability to collect bovine carcasses on the majority of the territory of the Province of Nova Scotia;
- have a business volume that allows for the recovery of up to 278 heads to allow the CFIA to meet its sampling objectives for Nova Scotia;
- have sufficient refrigeration equipment in order to preserve held carcasses after sampling occurs until test results are available;
- provide acceptable working conditions for staff of the CFIA.

### **Justification for the Pre-Selected Supplier**

The Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture is the only supplier that can cover the required area of Nova Scotia by coordinating with all small dealers. They are located in Nova Scotia and represent the best interests of the agricultural community. They are experienced and knowledgeable with the dead stock industry being involved with the collection of samples for BSE since its start up in 2004. They have managed the dead stock program for Nova Scotia using smaller dealers who have CFIA approved facilities, record keeping and permits to provide CFIA the required information on the samples collected in the province of Nova Scotia. They are mandated to operate within all federal, provincial and municipal requirements and have the ability to cover service for Nova Scotia. They can manage the collection of samples that CFIA needs to report on the incident of BSE in Nova Scotia. In accordance with Nova Scotia labour laws, support safe working conditions for CFIA staff.

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to meet the specified requirements may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the Contracting Authority identified in this Notice on or before the closing date of this Notice. The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is **July 22, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. Ottawa, Ontario time.**

Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be directed to:

**Michel Larivière**

Telephone: 613 773-7559

Facsimile: 613 773-7615

E-mail: [michelr.lariviere@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:michelr.lariviere@inspection.gc.ca)

**Policy Information**

- a) Government Contracts Regulations (GCRs):
  - d. only one person is capable of performing the contract.*
  
- b) Subject to WTO-AGP:
  - XV.1(a) - protection of exclusive rights, such as patents or copyrights, or in the absence of competition for technical reasons, the products or services can be supplied only by a particular supplier and no reasonable alternative or substitute exists*
  
- c) Subject to NAFTA:
  - 1016.2(b) - where, for works of art, or for reasons connected with the protection of patents, copyrights or other exclusive rights, or proprietary information or where there is an absence of competition for technical reasons, the goods or services can be supplied only by a particular supplier and no reasonable alternative or substitute exists*
  
- d) Subject to AIT:
  - 506.12(b) - where there is an absence of competition for technical reasons and the goods or services can be supplied only by a particular supplier and no alternative or substitute exists*
  
- e) Subject to CKTEA:
  - Protection of exclusive rights, such as patents or copyrights, or in the absence of competition for technical reasons, the products or services can be supplied only by a particular supplier and no reasonable alternative or substitute exists*