

# **R** E Q U E S T F O R Q U O T A T I O N

FOR

Online Property and Financial Searches

Date issued: July 27, 2015

Solicitation Closes: August 11, 2015

Solicitation File # : 201502507

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*Ce document est disponible en français sur demande*

**All requirements in this RFQ are mandatory.**

**SCOPE OF WORK**

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation wishes to enter into contract with a qualified proponent for the purpose of providing both Property Title searches through Land Registry Offices as well as a range of corporate searches confirming current business status. The successful proponent must have the capability to perform these searches both nationwide and in the United States.

**DELIVERABLES**

Services are to be provided on a request basis, with volumes expected to be in excess of 300-500 requests annually. The contract will have a term of three (3) years. The approximate budget for this project is \$83,000.00, inclusive of taxes.

**PRICE QUOTATION**

The proponent must submit a fixed (firm) price for the three year contract relative to all of the goods/services and deliverables outlined in this RFQ.

All prices and amounts of money are to be quoted in Canadian dollars and be exclusive of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), Harmonized Sales Tax (HST), and Provincial Sales Tax (PST), as applicable, unless otherwise indicated.

**SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS**

Proponents are requested to submit their **signed** quote to EBID@cmhc-schl.gc.ca, by **2:00 p.m. EDT, August 11, 2015**. The subject line of the transmission must state: **RFQ, file #201502507.**

Timely and correct delivery of quotes to the exact specified quotation delivery address is the sole responsibility of the proponent. All risks and consequences of incorrect delivery of quotes are the responsibility of the proponent. CMHC will not assume or have transferred to it those responsibilities. All registered times will be in accordance with the time CMHC computer servers **receive** the submission, not the time the quotation was sent by the proponent\*. Submissions received after 2:00 p.m. EDT on August 11, 2015 will not be accepted.

\*Please be advised that electronic transmissions may not necessarily be immediate and can experience lengthy delivery delays. Proponents should ensure that sufficient delivery time is allowed for quotations to be received.

## **Format**

Quotations may be submitted in MS Word, Lotus WordPro or Adobe Acrobat PDF in English or in French.

NOTE: In certain email programs the “Send” format may need to be specified as either “HTML” or “Plain Text”. Rich Text formatted or Compressed (Zipped) documents cannot be opened by CMHC.

## **PROPONENT SELECTION**

The policy pertaining to the selection of suppliers is based on the principle that all suppliers must be treated fairly and equally. Suppliers are defined as an individual or firm that could provide, or has provided, goods or services or construction under contract.

CMHC utilizes the Supplier Information (SI) database, maintained by **Business Access Canada** as the Official CMHC source list. All proponents **must** be registered with **Business Access Canada** prior to submitting a proposal. The Procurement Business Number (PBN) provided by **Business Access Canada** must be included with your proposal. If you are not registered, and you wish to do so, you may access **Business Access Canada** (<https://buyandsell.gc.ca/>) or you may call their Information Line at: 1-800-811-1148). Present Suppliers not registered with Business Access Canada are required to self-register on the SI via the Business Access Canada Web site.

CMHC shall conduct the RFQ process in a visibly fair manner and will treat all proponents equitably. It is intended that the lowest cost quotation will be accepted, however, CMHC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all quotations and to verify that the supplier is able to meet the conditions outlined in the RFQ prior to awarding a contract.

Without changing the intent of this RFQ or the lead proponent’s quotation, CMHC will enter into discussions with the lead proponent for the purpose of finalizing the contract. If at any time CMHC decides that the lead proponent cannot satisfy CMHC’s requirements, CMHC may terminate negotiations. If at this time CMHC feels that the secondary proponent may meet the requirements, CMHC will continue the process with the secondary proponent and so on.

Announcement of the successful proponent will be made to all proponents following the signing of a contract.

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE REQUEST FOR QUOTATION**

### **1. INVOICING**

The Contractor must allow 30 days from delivery of invoice for payment without interest charges. The Contractor may not invoice prior to performance of the service or delivery of the goods.

**2. NON-COMPLIANCE OR DEFAULT BY CONTRACTOR**

If the Contractor fails to comply with a direction or decision of CMHC properly given under the terms of this RFQ, or is in default in any other manner under any ensuing contract, CMHC may do such things and incur such costs as it deems necessary to correct the Contractor's default, including without limitation the withholding of payment due or accrued due to the Contractor for services rendered pursuant to the contract, which moneys may be set off by the Corporation against any expenses that it may incur in remedying a default or failures as described above.

**3. OWNERSHIP**

(a) Any and all information prepared exclusively for the Corporation shall remain the property of the Corporation and all copyrights thereto are the property of the Corporation and neither the Contractor nor its servants or agents shall divulge, release or publish any such documentation.

(b) Any and all information relating to the Corporation and obtained by the Contractor during the course of execution of its duties under any ensuing contract shall remain the property of the Corporation and shall not be used in any way or disclosed to anyone without the prior written consent of the Corporation.

**4. DELIVERY**

Unless instructed otherwise, delivery of the services and/or goods hereunder shall be made free and clear of all liens and encumbrances, in the manner and to the destination stipulated. CMHC reserves the right to refuse pre shipment and, in addition to any other remedy or remedies which CMHC may have, CMHC reserves the right to cancel any ensuing contract in whole or in part if deliveries are not made as stipulated in any ensuing contract.

**5. CONFIDENTIALITY**

All plans, drawings, specifications and other information, patterns, dies and other tools supplied by CMHC, and any information derived therefrom are confidential to CMHC and shall not be disclosed by the Contractor to any third party without the prior written consent of CMHC, or made use of by the Contractor except for the purpose of executing the work hereunder. All such plans, drawings, specifications and other information, patterns, dies and other tools shall be and remain the property of CMHC and shall be returned by the Contractor to CMHC upon request.

**6. INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCE**

All goods and/or services supplied under any ensuing contract are subject to inspection and acceptance by CMHC within a reasonable time after receipt thereof. CMHC will notify the Contractor in writing of the rejection of any goods and/or services which are not in accordance with the description or specifications stipulated in any ensuing contract, and such goods and/or services will then be held at the Contractor's risk for disposition by it and subject to all charges accruing as a result of such rejection.

**7. WARRANTY**

The Contractor warrants and guarantees that the goods and/or services supplied under any ensuing contract are fit for the particular purpose or use for which they are purchased by CMHC and will perform in accordance with specifications and the Contractor also warrants and guarantees the goods against any and all defects in material, workmanship or design. This warranty and guarantee is in addition to any and all warranties and guarantees of the Contractor arising by operation of law and nothing contained herein shall be construed as limiting or restricting such warranties or guarantees or any right or remedy which CMHC may have.

**8. INSURANCE**

It shall be the sole responsibility of the Contractor to determine what, if any, insurance coverage is necessary for its own protection or to fulfill its obligation under any ensuing contract. Any such insurance shall be provided and maintained by the Contractor at its own expense.

**9. INCOME TAX REPORTING REQUIREMENT**

As a federal Crown Corporation, CMHC is obliged under the Income Tax Act and Regulations to report payments made by the Corporation to suppliers of goods and/or services by using a T1204 supplementary slip. CMHC must therefore obtain the necessary information from suppliers (including the Contractor's social insurance number and/or corporate identification number) in order to allow it to complete the T1204 supplementary slip. The Winning Proponent will be required to complete and sign a Supplier - Direct Deposit and Tax Information Form (CMHC/SCHL 3085) prior to execution of any ensuing contract.

**10. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**

The Contractor shall comply fully with all applicable laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, code and standards, whether federal, provincial, or local, and shall furnish CMHC such evidence of compliance as CMHC may require at any time.

**11. INDEMNITY**

The Contractor shall indemnify and save harmless CMHC from and against all claims, debts, demands, suits, actions and causes of action whatsoever and all losses, costs, damages, expenses and liabilities which may be suffered or incurred by CMHC, arising out of or in connection with (whether directly or indirectly, or by reason of negligence or otherwise) the supplying of goods under any ensuing contract or any matter or thing done, suffered or permitted or omitted to be done by, or the operations of the Contractor, its subcontractors, or its or their employees or agents, under said contract.

**12. TERMINATION**

If the Contractor shall become insolvent or shall make any assignment for the benefit of creditors or a receiver or trustee shall be appointed for all or part of its property, or if the contractor shall default in the observance or performance of any of its obligations hereunder, the contract may forthwith be cancelled at the option of CMHC without liability.

**13. ASSIGNMENT**

The Contractor may not assign the whole or any part of its rights or obligations arising out of any ensuing contract without the prior written consent of CMHC.

**14. DECLARATION RE: BID RIGGING, COLLUSION AND GRATUITIES**

In submitting its quotation, the Contractor certifies that:

- (a) prices as submitted have been arrived at independently from those of any other Contractor;
- (b) the prices as submitted have not been knowingly disclosed by the Contractor, and will not knowingly be disclosed by the Contractor prior to award, directly or indirectly, to any other Contractor or competitor; and
- (c) no attempt has been made, nor will be made, to induce any other person to submit, or not to submit, a quotation, for the purpose of restricting competition.
- (d) In submitting its quotation, the proponent certifies that no representative for the Contractor has offered or given a gratuity (e.g. an entertainment or gift) to any CMHC employee, Board member or Governor-in-Council appointee; and intended, by the gratuity, to obtain a contract or favourable treatment under a contract.

**15. ACCESS TO CMHC PROPERTY**

CMHC agrees to permit access by the Contractor's employees onto CMHC's premises for the purpose of fulfilling its obligations under any ensuing contract. However, CMHC reserves the right to refuse entry of the Contractor's personnel in cases of emergencies. CMHC further reserves the right to remove from and/or refuse entry to the work site, at any time, any Contractor's personnel who are incompetent or intemperate, or who violate CMHC's Safety and/or Security regulations or interfere with CMHC's operations.

The Contractor shall be fully responsible to CMHC for the acts and omissions (including negligence) of its subcontractors and of persons directly or indirectly engaged by such subcontractors as if such acts and omissions were those of the Contractor.

**16. CMHC PROPERTY**

The Contractor shall be responsible for all loss or damage to CMHC's property delivered to, or in custody of, the Contractor in connection with a contract from the time of such delivery or custody until said property is returned to CMHC.

**17. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR**

Any ensuing contract is an agreement for the provision or performance of goods and/or services and neither the Contractor, nor any of its employees, officers, or agents is engaged as an employee or agent of CMHC. The Contractor agrees to so advise its employees, officers, and agents.

**18. EXTRAS**

Except as otherwise provided in any ensuing contract, no payment for extras shall be made unless such extras and the price thereof have been authorized in writing by CMHC.

**19. SECURITY CLEARANCE**

The Contractor agrees that it or any other persons for which it is responsible who are to perform the Contractor's obligations under any ensuing contract shall not be acceptable to CMHC unless, at the request of CMHC, those persons have received a security clearance from CMHC's Corporate Security and Risk Management. It is agreed that should the Contractor or any other person who is to perform work under any ensuing contract and for whom the Contractor is responsible, fail to receive such a security clearance, that CMHC shall have the sole discretion to exclude such person from performing any work on any ensuing contract, or to terminate an existing contract immediately.

**20. SEVERABILITY**

If any provisions of the Terms and Conditions of any ensuing contract shall for any reason be held illegal or unenforceable, such provision shall be deemed separable from the remaining provisions of the Terms and Conditions of any ensuing contract and shall in no way affect or impair the validity or the enforceability of the remaining provisions of the contract.