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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Reference Number: 1000174482

CLOSING DATE: **September 2, 2015** **CLOSING TIME: 2:00 PM EDT**

PROJECT TITLE: Bioinformatic Data Analyses for the Identification of Toxicity Mechanisms and Adverse Outcome Pathways related to Air Pollution Exposure

Branch/ Directorate: Healthy Environments and Consumer Safety Branch
Environmental and Radiation Health Sciences Directorate
Environmental Health Science and Research Bureau
Health Canada

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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RFP Issue Date: August 18, 2015

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PART I STATEMENT of WORK

1. Scope

1.1. Title

Bioinformatic Data Analyses for the Identification of Toxicity Mechanisms and Adverse Outcome Pathways related to Air Pollution Exposure

1.2. Introduction

The Inhalation Toxicology Laboratory (ITL) and Analytical Biochemistry and Proteomics Laboratory (ABPL) of Health Canada requires expert assistance with the bioinformatic analysis of high content proteomic mass spectral data derived from air pollution toxicology studies.

1.3. Objectives of the Requirement

The objective of this requirement is to complete expert bioinformatic analyses of the data generated in an investigation of the in vitro toxicity of ambient particulate matter impacted by source emissions on lung epithelial and mouse macrophage cell lines. The analyses will be used by Health Canada researchers to identify molecular changes relevant to air pollution toxicity in cell and animal models, and publish the results of the research in peer reviewed scientific publications.

1.4. .Background and Specific Scope of the Requirement

The Analytical Biochemistry and Proteomic Laboratory and the Inhalation Toxicology Laboratory of Health Canada has conducted air pollution exposure studies and subsequent proteomic analyses involving exposure of two different cell lines (A549 and J774) to urban and reference particles to elucidate toxicity mechanisms of various source emissions to fulfill research needs identified by Health Canada's Clean Air Regulatory Agenda. These analyses generate high volume mass spectral data from both Bruker MALDI-TOF-TOF-MS/MS and Agilent LC-MS/MS platforms that have to be subjected to specialised proteomic bioinformatic analyses in order to obtain information on protein identification and mechanistic pathways. The data will be used by Health Canada researchers to identify molecular changes relevant to air pollution toxicity in cell and animal models to enable the preparation of the manuscripts for peer reviewed scientific publications in timely fashion as per the project workplans.

In-house resources in terms of skilled personnel dedicated to conduct these bioinformatic analyses are currently lacking. Therefore, in order to meet the timelines associated with this research project, it is necessary to conduct these analyses under contract.

The contractor must be available to perform the work required between September 2015 and March 2016.

2. Requirements

2.1. Tasks, Activities, Deliverables and Milestones

This work requires extensive bioinformatics analyses of high content proteomic mass spectral data (both

archival and current) spanning the period from January 2012 to March 2015 by the Analytical Biochemistry and Proteomic Laboratory and the Inhalation Toxicology Laboratory of Health Canada.

Task 1: Convert raw proteomic mass spectral data outputs (**A549 cellular proteomics**) from the Bruker MALDI-TOF-TOF-MS/MS platform into file formats compatible with biomarker discovery tools (Task Duration: approximately 1 week).

Task 2: Post-process the above converted raw proteomic mass spectral data (**A549 cellular proteomics**) for biomarker discovery with false discovery rate (FDR) calculation using proteomic bioinformatic tools including Clin Pro Tools, proteinscape and PEAKS. Conduct supervised and unsupervised data dependent discriminatory models for classification or categorization of data for guiding MS/MS analysis. (Task duration: approximately 3 weeks).

Task 3: Post-process proteomic MS scan and MS/MS data files (**A549 cellular proteomics**) to query against multiple proteomic databases including SwissProt, NCBInR, REFSeQ, PEAKSDB and for de novo sequencing for protein identification and quantitation using various proteomic bioinformatic tools. Apply proteomic bioinformatic tools MASCOT, EXPASY, XTANDEM, PEAKS Studio and Proteinscape for False discovery rate calculation for reliable protein identification, quantitation, and conduct meta-analysis of proteomic data (Task duration: approximately 6 weeks).

Task 4: Conduct pathway and network analyses of the protein expression data (**A549 cellular proteomics**) for evaluation of toxicologically relevant mechanistic and adverse outcome pathways. Generate high-caliber proteomic bioinformatic results that may be used by Health Canada scientists for preparation of peer-reviewed scientific manuscripts in the field of proteomics, bioinformatics and toxicology (Task duration: approximately 3 weeks).

Task 5: Convert raw proteomic mass spectral data outputs (**J774cellular proteomics**) from Bruker MALDI-TOF-TOF-MS/MS and Agilent LC-MS/MS platforms into file formats compatible with biomarker discovery tools (Task Duration: approximately 1 week).

Task 6: Post-process the above converted raw proteomic mass spectral data (**J774 cellular proteomics**) for biomarker discovery with false discovery rate (FDR) calculation using proteomic bioinformatic tools including Clin Pro Tools, proteinscape and PEAKS. Conduct supervised and unsupervised data dependent discriminatory models for classification or categorization of data for guiding MS/MS analysis. (Task duration: approximately 2 weeks).

Task 7: Post-process proteomic MS scan and MS/MS data files (**J774 cellular proteomics**) to query against multiple proteomic databases including SwissProt, NCBInR, REFSeQ, PEAKSDB and for de novo sequencing for protein identification and quantitation using various proteomic bioinformatic tools. Apply proteomic bioinformatic tools MASCOT, EXPASY, XTANDEM, PEAKS Studio and Proteinscape for False discovery rate calculation for relaible protein identification, quantitation, and conduct meta-analysis of proteomic data (Task duration: approximately 5 weeks).

Task 8: Conduct pathway and network analyses of the protein expression data (**J774 cellular proteomics**) for evaluation of toxicologically relevant mechanistic and adverse outcome pathways. Generate high-caliber proteomic bioinformatic results that may be used by Health Canada scientists for preparation of peer-reviewed scientific manuscripts in the field of proteomics, bioinformatics and toxicology (Task duration: approximately 5 weeks).

2.2. Specifications and Standards

The contractor must have at least 6 years of work experience in conducting bioinformatic analyses of proteomic data.

Both progress against deliverables and quality of the work will be assessed against the quality and rigor established in the fields of toxicology, proteomics and bioinformatics. The following are the key pieces to be assessed.

1) Raw spectral data from Bruker MALDI-TOF-TOF-MS/MS and Agilent LC-MS/MS platforms processsed for biomarker analyses from each project listed above.

2) Supervised and unsupervised data dependent discriminatory models for classification or categorization of data for guiding MS/MS analysis for all projects.

3) Proteomic biomarkers with False discovery rate calculation based on MS scan and MS/MS search against SwissProt, NCBInR, REFSeQ, and PEAKSDB.

4) Biological pathways and networks relevant to mechanistic and adverse outcomes.

5) Graphed and tabulated data for peer-reviewed scientific manuscripts prepared by scientists at Health Canada.

2.3. Technical, Operational and Organizational Environment

The data to be analyzed have been generated by the Analytical Biochemistry and Proteomic Laboratory and the Inhalation Toxicology Laboratory of Health Canada. The bioinformatic tools necessary to conduct these analyses are already located within the Health Canada laboratories. As the required work is associated with ongoing investigations, and because the bioinformatic platforms are already in place in the investigating laboratories, no technical incompatibilites are anticipated. The end users of this work will be the scientific and regulatory communities within Health Canada.

2.4. Method and Source of Acceptance

The work will be assessed through reports (one report for each milestone) on bioinformatic results from the analyses of high content proteomic mass spectrometry data output from Autoflex III MALDI-TOF-TOF-MS and 2D LC-MS/MS submitted to the Technical Authority. The quality of the output should meet the requirements to support the planned scientific manuscripts. The work carried out by the contractor will be deemed acceptable when the Technical Authority (or Project Manager) has reviewed the analyses (or deliverables).

2.5. Reporting Requirements

The Contractor must submit one (1) electronic copy a report to the Project Authority outlining the accomplishments for each milestone.

2.6. Project Management Control Procedures

The individual identified in the proposal as the Project Authority or Technical Authority will review all materials submitted by the Contractor as deliverables. The Project Management or Technical Authority will provide comments to the Contractor indicating any changes required to the deliverables, written reports, or processes.

3. Additional Information

3.1. Authorities

To be identified at time of contract award.

3.2. Canada's Obligations

Canada will provide to the contractor:

- Access to raw data to be analyzed
- Access to facilities and use of equipment (i.e. a workstation with a computer and associated equipment) and required software
- Scientific advice and support to carry out the requirement

3.3. Contractor's Obligations

In addition to the requirements specified in Section 2.1, Tasks, Activities, Deliverables and Milestones, the Contractor shall be responsible for:

- Being available as required for consultation with the Project Mangement or Technical Authority
- Responding to comments provided by the Project Management or Technical Authority.

3.4. Location of Work, Work site and Delivery Point

The contractor will work in Health Canada laboratories in order to access the data required to perform the work as well as at their own offices (as appropriate).

3.5. Language of Work

Any interim or status update reports, completed draft reports or final reports shall be prepared in English or French.

3.6. Security Requirements

a) The Contractor must, at all times during the performance of the Contract, hold a valid Designated Organization Screening (DOS), issued by the Canadian Industrial Security Directorate (CISD), Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC).

b) The Contractor personnel requiring access to PROTECTED information, assets or sensitive work site(s) must EACH hold a valid **RELIABILITY STATUS**, granted or approved by CISD/PWGSC.

c) The Contractor MUST NOT remove any PROTECTED information or assets from the identified work site(s), and the Contractor must ensure that its personnel are made aware of and comply with this restriction.

d) Subcontracts which contain security requirements are NOT to be awarded without the prior written permission of CISD/PWGSC.

e) The Contractor must comply with the provisions of the:

a. Security Requirements Check List and security guide (if applicable), attached at Annex "__";
b. *Industrial Security Manual* (Latest Edition).

3.7 Insurance Requirements

It is the sole responsibility of the contractor to decide whether or not any insurance coverage is necessary for its own protection or to fulfil its obligation under the contract and to ensure compliance with required federal, provincial or municipal law. Any such insurance shall be provided and maintained by the contractor at its own expense.

3.8 Travel and Living
Not applicable.

4. Project Schedule

4.1. Expected Start and Completion Dates

The services of the Contractor will be required for a period of approximately 7 months commencing in September 2015. The work is expected to be completed by March 2016.

4.2. Schedule and Estimated Level of Effort (Work Breakdown Structure)

Refer to Section 2.1 for more detail.

Task 1: Convert raw proteomic mass spectral data outputs (**A549 cellular proteomics**) … (Task Duration: approximately 1 week; Sept 2015).

Task 2: Post-process the above converted raw proteomic mass spectral data (**A549 cellular proteomics**) … (Task duration: approximately 3 weeks; Sept 2015).

Task 3: Post-process proteomic MS scan and MS/MS data files (**A549 cellular proteomics**) … (Task duration: approximately 6 weeks; October – November 2015).

Task 4: Conduct pathway and network analyses of the protein expression data (**A549 cellular proteomics**) … (Task duation: approximately 3 weeks; November to December 2015).

Task 5: Convert raw proteomic mass spectral data outputs (**J774 , cellular proteomics**) … (Task Duration: approximately 1 week; December 2015).

Task 6: Post-process the above converted raw proteomic mass spectral data (**J774 , cellular proteomics**) … (Task duration: approximately 2 weeks; December 2015).

Task 7: Post-process proteomic MS scan and MS/MS data files (**J774 , cellular proteomics**) … (Task

duration: approximately 5 weeks; December 2015 – February 2016).

Task 8: Conduct pathway and network analyses of the protein expression data (**J774 , cellular proteomics**) … (Task duration: approximately 5 weeks; February to March 2016).

5. Required Resources or Types of Roles to be Performed

For this requirement, a critical resource required will be knowledge, skills and proven experience in bioinformatics for proteomics. All necessary bioinformatic software tools and computer infrastructure to be used by the resource are available in Health Canada laboratories. However, any contractor's resources that are compatible to performing the required tasks will be acceptable. A rating guide will be in place to screen and identify a suitable resource to perform the work proposed above.

6. Applicable Documents and Glossary

6.1. Applicable Documents
Not applicable.

PART II PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

7.0 Administrative Instructions for Completion of the RFP

7.0 Administrative Information

7.1 General Information

7.1.1 Components, Language and Number of Copies

You are invited to submit via e-mail electronic copies in either official language (English or French) of both the Technical and Cost Proposals to:

Robert.Merrick@hc-sc.gc.ca

The RFP Reference Number and the name of the Requirement must be in the subject line of your e-mail and your proposal must be structured in the following manner:

- one covering letter, signed by an authorized representative of your firm;
- *one* (1) *electronic* copy of the Technical Proposal;
- one (1) copy of Certifications (Appendix "A") and;
- *one* (1) copy of the Cost/Price Proposal (Appendix "B") ") **saved as a separate document.**

If the proposal is **greater than 20mb**, the firewall protecting Health Canada's network system will not permit the e-mail to be received. In which case, the bid will have to be physically delivered to the address cited below and an email sent to the Departmental Representative (found on page 1) stating that the bid has been delivered by hand / courier. You **must** send an email to the Departmental Representative to ensure your bid is included in this solicitation. The RFP Reference Number and the name of the Departmental Representative must be marked on all documents, binders and respective envelopes delivered by hand. If you are delivering hard copies, your proposal must be structured in the following manner:

- one covering letter, signed by an authorized representative of your firm;
- four (4) copies of the Technical Proposal;
- one (1) copy of Certifications (Appendix "A") and;
- *one* (1) copy of the Cost/Price Proposal (Appendix "B"), contained in a ***separate sealed envelope*.**

Deliveries by hand / courier are to be sent to the following address:

Health Canada Bid Receiving Unit
Federal Records Centre Building,
161 Goldenrod Driveway (Loading Dock),
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9
Attention: Robert Merrick

RFP Reference Number: 1000174482

Hours of Operation: 07h30 to 16h30 (EST) Monday to Friday

7.1.3 No Payment for Pre-Contract Costs

No payment will be made for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a proposal in response to this RFP. No costs incurred before receipt of a signed contract or specified written authorization from the Departmental Representative can be charged to the proposed contract.

7.2 Delivery Instructions for Bid / Proposal

As per section 7.1.1

The onus for submitting bids on time at the specified location rests with the bidder. It is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure correct and timely delivery of the entire bid to the Crown, including all required information and proposal pages.

7.3 Non-Acceptance of Proposal by Facsimile

Proposals sent by fax, telex and telegraphic means will **not** be accepted.

7.4 Closing Date and Time

All proposals must be received at the specified on the front page of this Request for Proposal. Proposals received after this time will be returned unopened. The onus for submitting bids on time at the specified location rests with the bidder. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure correct delivery of its bid to the Crown.

7.5 Time Extension to Closing Date

A request for a time extension to the closing date will be considered only in exceptional circumstances. Any requests for extension must be received in writing by the identified Departmental Representative.

7.6 Non-Compliance / Unacceptable Proposals

Failure to meet the mandatory requirements of this RFP will result in your proposal being declared non-responsive.

Proposals received after the proposal closing time will not be considered and will be returned unopened to the bidder. Further, for any proposals which are found to be non-compliant, the financial part of the bid or proposal will be returned unopened with a letter from Health Canada indicating that the bid/proposal was non-compliant.

7.7 Bidders Conference / Site Visits

There is no site visit with this requirement. However, resource(s) proposed by the Contractor will be interviewed in order to confirm their level of knowledge and experience.

7.8 Announcement of Successful Contractor

Health Canada will communicate to all bidders the name and address of the successful candidate as well as the total dollar value and award date for the contract only after contract sign-off.

7.9 Rights of the Crown

The Crown reserves the right to:

- reject any or all proposals received in response to this RFP;
- accept any proposal in whole or in part; and
- cancel and/or re-issue this requirement at any time.

7.10 Sample Long Form Contract

The successful bidder for this requirement will be expected to enter into agreement with Health Canada as per departmental contract terms and conditions.

7.11 Employment Equity

Not applicable.

7.12 Procurement Business Number (PBN)

Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) has adopted the Procurement Business Number (PBN) for all its purchasing databases, and now requires that its suppliers have one for each of their offices that may be awarded contracts. Go to **Buyandsell.gc.ca** to register in the Supplier Registration Information (SRI) service and to obtain your PBN. As an existing or potential supplier to the Department, you must obtain a PBN to avoid possible delays of any contract award. It is Health Canada=s intention to use this sourcing system for all its procurements of goods and services to which the trade agreements do not apply.

SRI is a database of suppliers who have registered to do business with the Government of Canada. The PBN is created using your Canada Revenue Agency Business Number to uniquely identify a branch, division or office of your company. Unlike many existing departmental vendor databases, your information in SRI is accessible to all federal government buyers. SRI can help to open up new opportunities with the federal government for requirements not posted on the electronic tendering service, www.buyandsell.gc.ca.

Visit the **Buyandsell.gc.ca** Internet site at https://srisupplier.contractscanada.gc.ca/index-eng.cfm?af=ZnVzZWFjdGlvbj1yZWdpc3Rlci5pbnRybyZpZD00&lang=eng for information and registration procedures.

7.13 Order of Precedence

In the case of any dispute which may arise during the period which may be covered by any ensuing contract, the following documents will be considered in order of precedence in terms of importance in resolving any disputes between the parties:

- The Health Canada Contract;
- Any changes to the terms and conditions contained herein which have been approved by General Counsel for Health Canada;
- The Statement of Work in this RFP; and
- The terms identified in this RFP.

8.0 Technical Proposal

8.1 General Information

Your technical proposal must address all the requirements of the SOW and demonstrate that you are capable of meeting all obligations of the contractor specified in the same.

Your technical proposal must meet **all of the Mandatory Requirements** listed in Section 12.0, as well as the **minimum score identified for the Point Rated Requirements** in Section 13.0.

Furthermore, your technical proposal should include the following:

8.2 Understanding of the Requirements

A brief statement that demonstrates that the contractor understands the requirements of the SOW, including the objectives, scope of work and deliverables.

8.3 Approach and Methodology:

8.3.1 General Approach

A description of the overall approach and strategy to this project.

8.3.2 Methodology

Identify methodologies and techniques to be used, including identifying any proprietary information which is proposed to be used in the program.

8.3.3 Work Plan / Project Schedule

Break down the work by task - show phases, planned start, completion dates and the estimated level of effort (i.e. person days) needed to complete the task. The work plan may include a matrix and/or time line charts. A project schedule structured in weeks, reflecting milestones and deliverables, should be included.

8.3.4 Performance and Quality Control

Specify how you propose to deal with the performance and quality assurance of the work provided by your organization to the Crown. Include information about quality control methods and reporting mechanisms.

8.4 Proposed Team

8.4.1 Personnel

Identify the proposed personnel, including **Project Manager**, who will be assigned to this contract, describe the role they will be performing, including the amount of direct time dedicated to the project by principals and/or senior personnel, and explain why they are well suited for the work, referring to their qualifications, certifications, education and experience.

If applicable, include a list of proposed sub-contractors, with reference to their capabilities, experience and degree of involvement in the work.

The bidder must certify in the technical proposal that the information provided in all the personnel résumés has been verified to be true and accurate. In addition, for every resource proposed by the bidder who is not an employee of the firm, the actual resource must certify that they are aware that they are being bid as part of the bid/ proposal and state their relationship with the firm.

8.4.2 Contingency Plan

If the contract cannot be completed by the assigned personnel, the following individual(s) will complete the work. *Attach résumés.*

8.5 Contractor Profile

8.5.1 Organization

Provide background information about your company, including its legal name and the province in which the company is incorporated.

8.5.2 Relevant Work Experience

Describe your company's capacity and experience in this field.

8.5.3 References

If references for a firm or proposed resource are requested, identify the number of referenced; the criteria against which they will be applied; and the specific details which the reference will have to address. Caution should be taken when using references: they are not criteria in themselves but are instead ways of verifying compliance with a specific criteria. Further care should be taken to ensure that the person providing the reference is able to provide objective, useful and valid information.

8.6 Résumés of Personnel

Attach résumés of proposed personnel.

9.0 Cost / Price Proposal Please see Appendix B

9.1 General Information

The Price Proposal must contain a detailed breakdown of the **total quoted price**, by phase, or by major tasks, or both. The Price Proposal should address each of the following, if applicable:

9.1.1 *Per Diem*

For each individual and/or labour category to be employed on the project, including subcontractors, indicate the proposed time rate and the estimated time requirement. Although detailed support for the rates is not requested at this time, you should be prepared to substantiate the proposed rates.

9.1.2 Travel

Estimate the cost of travel using the current Treasury Board Travel Directive. **9.1.3**

9.1.3 Other Expenses

List any other expenses which may be applicable, giving an estimated cost for each (e.g. long distance communications, reproduction, shipping, equipment, rentals, materials, etc.).

9.1.4 Goods and Services Tax / Harmonized Sales Tax

Various items in your cost proposal may be subject to GST / HST or custom duties, and this charge must be included in the cost estimates where applicable.

10.0 Enquiries

All enquiries or issues concerning this procurement must be submitted **in writing only** to the Departmental Representative named on the front cover page of this RFP document **not later than seven (7) working days prior to the bid closing date.**

To ensure consistency and quality of information to Bidders, the Departmental Representative will provide, simultaneously to all bidders to which this solicitation has been sent,

- any information with respect to significant enquiries received, and
- the replies to such enquiries without revealing their sources,

provided that such enquiries are received no less than seven (7) working days prior to the bid closing date.

All enquiries and other communications with government officials throughout the solicitation and evaluation period are to be directed **only** to the Departmental Representative named on the front cover page of this RFP document. **Non-compliance with this condition during the bid solicitation and evaluation period may be sufficient reason for bid disqualification.**

PART III BID SELECTION PROCESS

11.0 Introduction

Below are separate mandatory and point-rated criteria to be used to evaluate the bids.

12.0 Mandatory Requirements

12.1 Method of Evaluation

Mandatory requirements are evaluated on a simple pass or fail basis. Failure by bidders to meet any of the mandatory requirements will render the bidder's proposal **non-responsive**. The treatment of mandatory requirements in any procurement process is absolute.

Proposers must meet **all** the mandatory requirements described below. This will be evaluated as either "**Yes**" or "**No**". Proposals not receiving "**Yes**" for any mandatory requirement will ***not*** be considered further.

12.2 Mandatory Requirements

Attention Bidders: Write beside each of the criteria the relevant page number(s) from your proposal that addresses the requirement identified in the criteria.			
Mandatory Criteria	**Page #**	**Yes**	**No**
M1. The Bidder must provide within their proposal a CV of the proposed resource that describes the capability to perform this work successfully.			
M2. The Bidder's proposed resource must hold as a minimum an Master of Science (M.Sc.) in biology; and a graduate diploma or degree in bioinformatics. A copy of the certification/diploma must be included in the Bidders proposal.			
M3. The Bidder must provide two references from previous work/projects conducted by their proposed resource that are similar to the work outlined in this requirement's Statement of Work. The references must be a former client's Project Authority/Project Lead from a previous project.			

M4. For all referenced projects the Bidder must provide the following information: 1. Name, phone number, and e-mail address of the client reference 2. Start and end dates of the project 3. Name of project and a brief description of the work involved (less than 250 words) 4. Role and length of involvement of the proposed resource on the project Note: Health Canada reserves the right to check references by contacting one or all of the references provided. Health Canada also reserves the right to reject a bidder should one or more of the references provided not be available within one week from completion of bid evaluation and if in checking references they do not confirm the resources work experience, quality of work and information provided by the bidder.				
M5. The Bidder must provide a resource with at least 6 years of work experience from the date of this RFP in conducting bioinformatic analyses of proteomic data. Experience must be in months and years.				
M6. The Bidder's proposed resource must have a minimum of five (5) years experience by the date of this RFP working as a bioinformatician in a proteomics laboratory. Experience must be in month and years.				

13.0 Point Rated Requirements

13.1 Method of Evaluation

To be considered responsive, a bid must obtain the required minimum of **60 points** for the criteria which are subject to point rating. The rating is performed on **a scale of 105 points.**

13.2 Point Rated Requirements

Attention Bidders: Write beside each of the criteria the relevant page number(s) from your proposal which addresses the requirement identified in the criteria.

Point-Rated Criteria	Page Number	Points Allocated for the Criteria	Minimum Points Required	Score
R1. The Bidder's proposed resource has demonstrated experience over the minimum five (5) years as per M5 working as a bioinformatician in a proteomics laboratory.		20		

Four (4) points will be allocated for each year of experience over the minimum five (5) years to a maximum of twenty (20) points. Years must be demonstrated in month and year.				
R2. The Bidder's proposed resource has demonstrated their experience in the conversion of raw proteomic mass spectral data output from the Bruker MALDI-TOF-TOF-MS/MS and Agilent nano LC-ETD MS/MS or other LC-MS/MS platforms into file formats compatible with various biomarker discovery tools by providing projects that the bidder was involved in working as a research bioinformatician in a proteomics laboratory within the last three (3) years from date of this RFP. One (1) point will be allocated for each successfully completed project to a maximum of five (5) points. *For all referenced projects the Bidder must provide name, phone number, and e-mail address of the client Project Authority.		5		
R3. The Bidder's proposed resource has demonstrated experience in the analyses of proteomic mass spectral data for biomarker discovery and for reliable protein identification using a combination of the software tools such as ClinProTools, PEAKS and Proteinscape providing projects that the bidder was involved in working as a research bioinformatician in a proteomics laboratory within the last three (3) years from date of this RFP. Two (2) points will be allocated for each successfully completed project to a maximum of ten (10) points. *For all referenced projects the Bidder must provide name, phone number, and e-mail address of the client Project Authority.		10		
R4. The Bidder's proposed resource has demonstrated experience in the construction of supervised and unsupervised data dependent discriminatory models for classification or categorization of data indicating projects that the Bidder was involved in working as a research bioinformatician in a proteomics laboratory within the		20		

last three (3) years from date of this RFP. Five (5) points will be allocated for successfully completed project to a maximum of 20 points. *For all referenced projects the Bidder must provide name, phone number, and e-mail address of the client Project Authority				
R5. The Bidder has provided projects demonstrating its proposed resource's experience in conducting pathway analyses of proteomic data working as a research bioinformatician in a proteomics laboratory. Experience is to be demonstrated in months and years. Two (2) points will be allocated for each year of experience to a maximum of ten (10) points.		10		
R6. The Bidder's proposed resource has demonstrated experience in gathering information or literature review, analyzing information, and writing manuscripts for publication. Acceptable documentation includes scientific publications as a primary or co-author. Four (4) points will be allocated for each publication as a first author and two (2) points for each publication as a co-author to a maximum of twenty (20) points.		20		
R7. The Bidder's proposed resource has demonstrated experience in the development of software tools for the bioinformatic analyses of mass spectrometry-generated proteomic data. Acceptable documentation includes copies of the software in a compact disc with user documentation. Five (5) points will be allocated for each software tool to a maximum of fifteen (15) points.		15		
R8. The bidder's proposed resource has a PhD in biology. Please provide evidence of the degree.		5		

Total Points		105	60	

14.0 BASIS OF AWARDING CONTRACT

Highest Compliant Combined Rating of Technical Merit and Price:

It is understood by the parties submitting proposals that, to qualify, bidders **must** meet all mandatory requirements as well as the minimum score identified for the point-rated criteria. The contract will be awarded based on a determination of best value taking into account both the technical merit of the proposals and the price evaluations. To arrive at an overall score achieved by a firm, a weighting has been established whereby technical merit will be valued at 70% of the bid and price at 30%.

Contractor Ranking

For the purpose of ranking all technically acceptable proposals, the following ratio will factor the technical and the price component to establish a total percentage score:

Technical: 70%
Price: 30%

Technical Score = $\frac{\text{Bidder's Points}}{\text{Maximum Points}}$ **x** 70% **Cost Score** = $\frac{\text{Lowest Bid}}{\text{Bidder's Cost}}$ **x** 30%

Total Score = Technical Score + Cost Score

The contract will be awarded to the bidder with the **highest total technical and price score**.

CERTIFICATIONS

15.0 In order to confirm the authority of the person or persons signing the certifications or to establish the legal capacity under which the Bidder proposes to enter into Contract, any Bidder who carries on business in other than its own personal name shall, if requested by Canada, provide satisfactory proof of:

(a) such signing authority; and
(b) the legal capacity under which it carries on business;

prior to contract award. Proof of signing authority may be in the form of a certified copy of a resolution naming the signatory(ies) that is (are) authorized to sign this tender on behalf of the corporation or partnership. Proof of legal capacity may be in the form of a copy of the articles of incorporation or the registration of the business name of a sole proprietor or partnership.

Note to Bidders: The following certification requirements apply to this RFP. Bidders complete these certifications by filling in the appropriate spaces below and include them with their proposal.

Legal name and bidder's information (print clearly)

Bidder's Legal Name _____

Bidder's Complete Address _____

_____

_____

Bidder's Phone number (_____)_____

Bidder's Authorized Representative _____

Bidder's Authorized Representative Phone number (_____)_____

Bidder's Authorized Representative e-mail_____

Bidder's GST/HST Number _____

Bidder's province in which he is incorporated. _____

15.1. Bidder Certification

We hereby offer to sell to Her Majesty, in accordance with the Health Canada terms and conditions referred to herein or attached hereto, the goods and/or services listed herein and on any attached sheets at the prices set out therein.

We certify that all information provided herein is accurate. Furthermore we have satisfied ourselves that the

personnel proposed by us for this requirement are capable of satisfactorily performing the requirements described herein. In addition, we certify that individuals proposed will be available until completion of the project. Also, that the work specified herein can be met in a timely manner, and will be achieved with the time frame allocated.

Signature of the Authorized Representative of the Bidder Date

15.2. Bid Validity Certification

We certify that all pricing identified in the bid/ proposal will be valid for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days from the closing date of the RFP.

Signature of Authorized Representative of the bidder Date

15.3 Employment Equity

Not applicable.

15.4. Status of Resources

If we have proposed any person in fulfillment of this requirement who is not an employee (of the Bidder), we hereby certify that we have the written permission from the person to propose his/her services in relation to the Work to be performed in fulfillment of this requirement.

Signature of the Authorized Representative of the Bidder Date

15.5. Price Certification

We certify that the price quoted in this Proposal is not in excess of the lowest price charged anyone else, including its most favoured customer, for like quality and quantity of the products/services, does not include an element of profit on the sale in excess of that normally obtained on the sale of products/services of like quality and quantity, and does not include any provision for discounts to selling agents. **Furthermore, we certify that our total bid price is not in excess of any funding limitations set out herein.**

Signature of the Authorized Representative of the Bidder Date

15.6. Joint Venture Information (if applicable)

A joint venture is an association of two or more parties who temporarily combine their money, property, knowledge, or other resources in a joint business enterprise. There are two primary types of joint ventures, the incorporated joint venture and the contractual joint venture, i.e. formed through a contractual agreement between the parties.

If a contract is awarded to a contractual joint venture, all members of the joint venture shall be jointly and severally or solitarily liable for the performance of the Contract.

If the Bidder is submitting a type of joint venture, the Bidder must provide the following information in the proposal:

(a) indicate the type of joint venture:
- incorporated joint venture
- limited partnership joint venture
- partnership joint venture
- contractual joint venture
- other (explain)

(b) provide the legal names and addresses of all of the members of the joint venture (i.e. the legal name of the firm associated with the Business Number (BN) or Social Insurance Number (SIN) for sole proprietorships), as well as the legal name and address of the joint venture business entity**.**

Appendix "B"

Tableau "A1" – From Contract award to March 31, 2016

A	B	C	D (BxC)
Category of Personnel Insert rows as required	Per Diem Rate(s)	Level of Effort/Number of Days Required	Total Costs for Professional Fees TAXES NOT INCLUDED
1.	$		$
2.	$		$
		Sub-Total 1:	$