

## **NSSC Status Update to Vendors**

On July 14, 2015, Shared Services Canada (SSC) hosted a Vendor Engagement Webinar (VEW) on the Network Solutions Supply Chain (NSSC) initiative. Seventy (70) vendors pre-registered and thirty (30) vendors responded to the Vendor Engagement Questionnaire which included seven (7) questions.

Two (2) procurement options were presented for vendor feedback. The first option would result in the awarding of Supply Arrangements (SAs) based on three (3) independent solution streams. The second option was an integrated four service solution tiers model.

SSC presented industry with these options to seek their review and comments. Because of the size, complexity, scope and scale of this procurement initiative, SSC wanted to ensure that it establishes vehicles which continue to provide equipment and services at the best possible value to our SSC partners.

After careful review and analysis of the vendor responses, SSC selected the second option. A majority of respondents indicated a preference for the integrated four service solution tiers model that would award multiple SAs covering all four service solution tiers: Networking Solutions; Maintenance and Professional Services; Remote Monitoring Services; and Fully Managed Services.

SSC's objective is to transform network operations inside workplaces, while ensuring that cost-effective contracts are in place for the management and/or purchase of network and security solutions as well as maintenance services to support and maintain wide area network (WAN) connectivity, data centre network (DCN), information technology (IT) security and local area network (LAN) services.

SSC is developing the NSSC Invitation to Qualify (ITQ) to reflect the four solution service tiers approach and the next step will be the release of the ITQ on Buy and Sell. This is expected to be posted on Buy and Sell in the near future.

For more information related to this procurement initiative, please contact the Contracting Authority, Richard Tang at [Richard.Tang@canada.ca](mailto:Richard.Tang@canada.ca).