

This amendment is raised to answer bidder questions.

Question 1:

Please clarify the closing date for proposal submission. Currently, the general tender notice for the Challenge Call for Proposals (CFP) has a closing date of March 29, 2018 while the five individual Challenges are closing on August 21, 2017. Which date takes precedence as the deadline for proposal submission?

Answer 1:

The closing date for the Challenge CFP EN578-DB1700/A is March 29, 2018. However, each individual Challenge will have its own closing date as well. For each Challenge, proposals must be submitted by the closing date and time indicated on tender notice page for that individual Challenge on buyandsell.gc.ca. Refer to the Challenge CFP solicitation document, Part 3 – Proposal Preparation Instructions, for information on how to submit a proposal. Please also note that additional Challenges may be posted under the Challenge CFP at a future date, and once again, each of the Challenges will have its own individual closing date and time and that will be the deadline by which all proposals must be submitted for that particular Challenge.

Question 2:

Please clarify whether the approximate \$6M funding limit referenced in article 1.1.2 of the Build in Canada Innovation Program (BCIP) Challenge CFP is the total amount available for all five individual Challenges or is there an approximate funding of \$6M for each Challenge for a total funding of approximately \$30M for the Challenge CFP?

Answer 2:

As stated in the Challenge CFP solicitation document at Part 1.1.2, the total approximate amount of funding for the Challenge CFP is \$6M and the maximum funding for any Contract resulting from a Challenge is \$1M (taxes, travel & living, shipping excluded). Note that multiple Contracts may result from a single Challenge.

Question 3:

How does a bidder pre-qualify for the program?

Answer 3:

Please refer to the Challenge CFP document and its attachments posted to <https://buyandsell.gc.ca> for information on the requirement and details on the pre-qualification process.

Question 4:

Can bidders still apply through the open Call for Proposals?

Answer 4:

The Build in Canada Innovation Program (BCIP) currently has two CFPs open for proposals. The supply-push CFP titled “(BCIP) Call 007 (EN578-17BCIP/A)”, and the Challenge demand-pull CFP titled “(BCIP) – Challenge Call for Proposals (EN578-DB1700/A)” You may apply under either CFP, but if you plan to submit a proposal to the Challenge CFP, please note that in accordance with the terms of this Challenge CFP, your proposal will not be considered if it is under evaluation under Call 007 or is in an active pre-qualification pool under a previous BCIP CFP. If your proposal was pre-qualified, but the pool has expired, you may apply to the Challenge CFP. Please refer to the Challenge CFP Part 3, section 3.3 – Technical Proposal for more details.

Question 5:

What is the timeline from proposal submission to the completion of the evaluation?

Answer 5:

This is the first time the challenge CFP is being solicited by the BCIP so the numbers provided will be estimates and not based on past experience. It is expected that the evaluation process will be approximately 6 weeks. For comparison, the current Call for the supply-push CFP averages 2 – 3 months.

Question 6:

Who will review the proposals?

Answer 6:

The proposals will be reviewed by representatives of Canada as well as external Subject Matter Experts if needed. Please note these experts are required to confirm they are not in conflict of interest and sign a non-disclosure agreement. Please see part 4 of the Challenge CFP for further details on the evaluation process.

Question 7:

Will web links be accepted as part of the proposal?

Answer 7:

Only material in the proposal and within the word limit specified in the proposal submission form will be evaluated. External sources will not be evaluated. Please see Part 3 of the Challenge CFP for additional information.

Question 8:

Are there best practices or samples that can be used as guidelines for the proposal submission?

Answer 8:

All information required for submitting a proposal is provided in the solicitation documents and their attachments posted under the tender pages on <https://buyandsell.gc.ca>.

Question 9:

What percentage of proposals result in a Contract award and how many Contracts are awarded per Challenge?

Answer 9:

This is the first Challenge CFP under the BCIP.

Question 10:

Can a bidder submit a proposal without being pre-qualified to one of the individual Challenges?

Answer 10:

Please review the solicitation document and attachments. In order to be considered you must submit a proposal for one of the posted Challenges by the deadline for that Challenge. If you have an innovation that you feel does not fit into the scope of any of the Challenges posted, please consider the supply-push CFP which is posted here:

<https://buyandsell.gc.ca/procurement-data/tender-notice/PW-17-00762630>

Question 11:

What support is provided in completing the submission and asking questions while preparing the submission?

Answer 11:

Please refer to the Challenge CFP solicitation document and its attachments for all the details on submitting a proposal. If you need clarification, please submit your queries to SSGP.SCPD@pwgsc.gc.ca.

Question 12:

Please explain how the Challenge CFP fits in with BCIP Technology Readiness Level (TRL) requirements?

Answer 12:

The Challenge CFP is accepting proposal that fall between TRL 7 – 9 in the pre-commercial space. Please refer to the BCIP website for the definitions of “TRL” and “pre-commercial”.

Question 13:

If an appropriate testing facility cannot be identified in Canada, would American facilities be considered as test sites?

Answer 13:

The testing departments will determine the location of testing of the innovation during the Contract Award Process. Tests under BCIP Contracts have been conducted across Canada and outside of Canada as well.

Question 14:

Do the integrity provisions apply to this requirement?

Answer 14:

The integrity provisions apply to this requirement as the “2003 Standard Instructions – Goods or Services – Competitive Requirements” form part of the Challenge CFP.

Question 15:

We are considering employing a third-party such as the National Research Council to conduct certain tests as part of our proposal. Please confirm that the reference to third party testing at Article 3.4.4 of the Challenge CFP does not preclude bidders from employing third party test facilities?

Answer 15:

If a third-party or sub-contractor is employed in order to conduct the test as described in the Electronic Proposal Submission, Section Three – BCIP Test Plan, this is permitted and can be included in your financial proposal calculations. If you are referring to employing a third-party in order to test the innovation in preparation for proposal submission or in order to obtain certifications for the innovation, those expenditures will not be part of any resulting contract and will not be reimbursed.