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1.0 ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE (ACAN) # 20171684

An ACAN is a public notice indicating to the supplier community that a department or agency intends to award a contract for goods, services or construction to a pre-identified supplier, thereby allowing other suppliers to signal their interest in bidding, by submitting a statement of capabilities.

If no supplier submits a statement of capabilities that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, on or before the closing date stated in the ACAN, the contracting officer may then proceed with the award to the pre-identified supplier.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The Government of Canada has recognized that it must innovate and find new ways to address persistent problems that traditional approaches have failed to solve, and is committed to increasing support for public sector innovation and experimentation. This commitment includes improving the impact of existing programs, scaling up and spreading knowledge of “what works” across government, and building skills and capacity within the public service to make it more agile, results-driven and responsive to Canadians. .

Impact Canada – A Cross Government Outcomes-based Initiative

The Impact Canada Initiative, announced in Budget 2017, will allow the Government of Canada accelerate the uptake of outcomes-based funding approaches, such as prizes and challenges which orient government spending to delivering on tangible results, not process. Under Impact Canada, a dynamic digital platform will be utilized to support challenge-oriented and outcomes-based programming that address economic, environmental and social challenges. Prizes and challenges are an internationally recognized tool used to address a policy question where a satisfactory solution does not yet exist. Funding and resources for prizes and challenges are focused on specific pre-determined outcomes, which require measureable evidence that they have been met. Under this approach, payment is issued only when pre-determined outcomes are met, aligning with the Government of Canada’s clear and strong mandate to improve the value that Government policy and programs deliver to the Canadian public.

Impact Measurement

Impact measurement is a fundamental component of the Government’s innovation and experimentation commitment to trial, test and embed new approaches to policy and program delivery with the goal of measuring its impacts in a causal way such that outcomes can be attributed to a policy or program intervention. Programming through the Impact Canada initiative will incorporate a variety of impact measurement methodologies, into outcomes-based funding approaches through customized evaluation frameworks, tools and guidelines. These methodologies will be flexible in order to best work

with a wide range of policy and program areas under Impact Canada. Integrating these methodologies into programming under Impact Canada will help advance the evidence-based policy making within the Government of Canada.

What Works

A “what works” approach is grounded in improving the way governments and partners generate, share and adopt high quality evidence for decision-making, thereby supporting more effective and efficient policies, programs and services. Together, the impact measurement and What Works approach will help institutionalize experimentation inside of the Government of Canada by deliberately testing variations in approaches, vigorously evaluating them to help inform future policy and programmatic decisions.

3.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of the work under this contract is to support the Impact and Innovation Unit in accelerating the adoption of outcomes-based funding mechanisms, such as prizes and challenges, to effectively support the federal government’s innovation and experimentation commitments under three work streams:

(1) Outcomes-based funding mechanisms with an initial focus on prizes and challenges

Proven expertise and capacity is sought in the design and delivery of prize/challenges in multiple policy domains (social, economic, environmental), across the range of required components/stages: Inception, Conceptualisation, Prize research, Design and Implementation, Communications, Learning and Evaluation.

(2) Innovation (problem-solving) skills development (including experimentation)

In delivering on the government’s innovation and experimentation agenda, there is a need to grow and mature the skills and capacity required to manage more effectively, with a strong focus on results. Work under this stream will include development of a proven pedagogical-based curriculum to improve the capacity of Canadian public servants to solve complex public policy problems, specifically examining approaches, behaviours and cultures and enable innovation in government.

This program will help public servants become more agile, creative and effective in solving problems by strengthening their ability to effectively navigate, apply, embed and organize for innovative approaches (i.e., drawing on new tools for using data, running experiments, tapping citizen insights and taking ideas from conception to scale).

(3) Evidence and “what works”

In supporting a more robust evidence-based decision making environment, advice is sought on potentially implementing a Canadian “What Works” network to ensure that Canadian public servants benefit from lessons learned from similar initiatives around the world.

4.0 CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

1. Extensive and proven track record of delivering successful prize/challenge funding opportunities:
 - a. more than 100
 - b. at the national and international levels
 - c. across multiple policy domains (e.g., social, economic and environments)
 - d. working within complex partnership models involving governmental and non-governmental collaborators
2. A pedagogically-based innovations skills curriculum, developed from an international evidence base that can be adapted to a Canadian context.
3. Direct and in-depth experience in developing an internationally recognized What Works Centre

5.0 TRADE AGREEMENTS

This procurement is subject to the following trade agreements:

World Trade Organization Agreement on Government Procurement (WTO-AGP),
North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA),
Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement (CCFTA),
Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT),
Canada-Peru Free Trade Agreement (CPFTA),
Canada-Columbia Free Trade Agreement (CCoIFTA),
Canada-Panama Free Trade Agreement (CPanFTA) if it is in force.

6.0 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The vendor has ownership of Intellectual Property for the services in question. The Crown has rights to use the *Stages of Change* curriculum that will be adapted to the Canadian context as part of this contract.

7.0 JUSTIFICATION FOR THE PRE-IDENTIFIED SUPPLIER

Nesta is recognized as a global leader on innovation and how it can improve results for governments, businesses, charities and other organizations. Nesta's diverse team with expertise in prizes/challenges, partnerships, innovation skills, data capture and analysis, and technology is required to advise, set up and help run evidence-based prizes/challenges for the Government of Canada, and provide the Impact and Innovation Unit with knowledge, skills and competencies on how these outcomes-based funding approaches can most effectively be applied in the Canadian context. Following a thorough environmental scan, Nesta is the only organization positioned to do this work based on its own extensive experience in administering prizes/challenges (and the broader innovation ecosystem), its

expertise in developing and promoting innovation skills, and its work in evidence-based policy development through “What Works” centres in the UK. Nesta is unique and well positioned in that they have been executing hundreds prizes/challenges across since 2007 with organizations across the world and have taken their findings from this experience to generate best in class methodologies of how prizes/challenges can successfully deliver impact.

Nesta has proven capacity to deliver on the requirements of this contract. It has delivered 48 prizes/challenges on its challenge.org platform in 2017, across multiple policy domains, each time working with prominent partners around the world. Tens of thousands of individuals, teams and organizations have participated in these prizes/challenges drawing an average of 3,500 visitors per month to the challenge.org platform. The Government of Canada will benefit from the strength of Nesta’s experience and capacity in this area.

Nesta’s extensive stakeholder network is also critical to its flagship innovation skills curriculum, Stages of Change, which capitalizes on expertise from a range of experts, leading innovative organizations and high performing sectors. The program has a global faculty of innovative practitioners with a proven track record related to success in innovation work. Nesta’s Stages of Change program is the world’s first customizable, practice-oriented curriculum for government innovation. Nesta is the only organization positioned to modify their innovation skills development curriculum for use by Canadian public servants.

Finally, Nesta is a world leader in the area of championing and promoting evidence-based policy making it the best placed organization to provide advice regarding the establishment of a Canadian “What Works” model. A systematic “What Works” approach to generating, sharing and adopting high quality evidence for decision-making would support more effective and efficient policies, programs and services for Canadians. As a world leader in this area, the UK has a network of seven independent What Works Centres across a number of policy domains, including early childhood development, crime reduction, health care, social services, and economic development, and covering more than £200 billion in government programming. No other organization has undertaken this type of work on this scale.

With this integrated expertise, experience and capacity, Nesta is the most experienced organization capable of providing the required advice and support to the Impact and Innovation Unit.

8.0 GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS REGULATIONS EXCEPTION:

The following exception to the Government Contracts Regulations is invoked for the procurement under subsection Section 6, (d) only one firm is capable of performing the work, of the Government Contracts Regulations set aside the requirement to solicit bids.

9.0 PERIOD OF THE PROPOSED CONTRACT

The contract period shall be from date of award of Contract to March 31, 2020.

10.0 COST ESTIMATE OF THE PROPOSED CONTRACT

The estimated maximum value of the contract is \$661,771.00 CAD including of all applicable taxes.

11.0 NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PRE-IDENTIFIED SUPPLIER

NESTA

58 Victoria Embankment, London, United Kingdom, EC4Y 0DS

12.0 SUPPLIERS RIGHT TO SUBMIT A STATEMENT OF CAPABILITIES

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the services/goods described herein, may submit a Statement of Capabilities in writing, preferably by e-mail, to the contact person identified in this Notice on or before the closing date and time of this Notice. The Statement of Capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

13.0 CLOSING DATE AND TIME

The closing date for a submission of a Statement of Capabilities is January 16 2018 at 14:00 Eastern Standard Time.

14.0 INQUIRIES AND STATEMENT OF CAPABILITIES ARE TO BE DIRECTED TO:

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Privy Council Office
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