The purpose of this amendment is to

- distribute questions (Q) and answers (A) respecting the CFP; and
- modify (if applicable) the CFP as detailed in Section B

Section A – Qs & As

Questions (Q) and Answers (A)

Certain questions were generated at the Bidders' Conference of April 25, 2018. Efforts were taken by Canada to accurately record the questions. If erred, suppliers are asked to submit a written version of the accurate question to the Contracting Authority listed in the CFP, following the procedures of the CFP at Part 2, article 2.4 "Enquiries about the CFP". The corresponding answers are largely those given at the Conference. Some answers were further clarified/considered after the Conference and are modified below.

277 Question.

Section 5.2.10, Rate or Price Certification, requires that the offeror certify that the prices charged are "not in excess of the lowest price charged anyone else, including the Bidder's most favoured customer, for the like quality and quantity of the goods, services or both." This provision is so broad that no large company would have an appropriate inspection method to track all sales and ensure compliance with its terms. In addition, many of the firms that might respond to this solicitation regularly perform work for nonprofit organizations on a pro-bono or heavily discounted basis. As firms are unable to offer such pricing to a Government entity, such engagements would automatically place them in breach of the provision found in Section 5.2.10. In order to increase participation in this solicitation, and to not automatically preclude any firm from bidding, is Canada willing to remove this requirement from the contract?

Answer.

No.

278 Question.

The IDEaS Competitive Projects Site template does not match the RFP

Specifically the RFP says:

Project Objective 300 words

Combined 1600 words for PRC and SSC

PRC-1: Scientific and/or Technical Merit PRC-2: Novel and Innovative 200 words

PRC-3: Impact

PRC-4: Feasibility and Approach

SCC-1: Investment Viability

SCC-2: Operational Relevance

SCC-3: Capabilities / Benefits

Project Progression to Component 1b 200 words

Whereas, the on line template adds a new section and cuts allowable text in remaining sections significantly.

Project Objective 300 words

Project Overview 500 words (COMPLETELY NEW SECTION)

PRC-1: Scientific and/or Technical Merit 200 words

PRC-2: Novel and Innovative 200 words

PRC-3: Impact 200 words

PRC-4: Feasibility and Approach 200words

SCC-1: Investment Viability 100 words

SCC-2: Operational Relevance 100 words

SCC-3: Capabilities / Benefits 100 words Project Progression to Component 1b 200 words

Answer

The application form in FluidReview, as referenced in Part 3, article 3.3.1 of the CFP, matches what is outlined in Annex A - Statement of Work (SOW) & Cost and Part 4 - Attachment 3 - Cost Proposal Breakdown of the CFP.

The Project Objective section of the applications form corresponds to section 2.A of the SOW (300 words).

The Project Overview (500 words), PRC-1: Scientific and/or Technical Merit (200 words), PRC-2: Novel and Innovative (200 words), PRC-3: Impact (200 words), PRC-4: Feasibility and Approach (200words), SCC-1: Investment Viability (100 words), SCC-2: Operational Relevance (100 words), and SCC-3: Capabilities / Benefits (100 words) sections of the applications form correspond to section 2.C of the SOW (1600 words total).

The Project Progression to Component 1b section of the applications form corresponds to section 2.D of the SOW (200 words).

279 Question

- 1. I can't seem to find the date for award notice, if funded. I'd like to know the earliest possible start date of our project so that I can have a more accurate work plan for the milestones, etc. Would it be possible to let me know that?
- 2. I forgot to ask you if the budget would allow to include salaries of principal investigator or co-investigators.
- 3. Also I'd like to clarify with you that the certifications mentioned in Part 5 (IDEaS solicitation document pages 18-25) are not to be uploaded in the online system as supplementary information, right?

Answer.

- 1. See Answers 101, 132, 160 and 196.
- 2. It is the Bidder's responsibility to include its relevant costs in accordance with the provisions of the CFP and in particular, for universities and colleges, Part 3, articles 3.4 and 3.5. See also prior similar Answers, example 266 and 272.

See Amendment No. 5 to the CFP.

280 Question.

Page 18/19 of the bid documents – Declaration of Convicted Offences

If we are not in a situation where someone on our team has been charged with a criminal offense within the past three years, do we need to submit anything to fulfill this requirement? It appears that we only need to provide information if there has been a criminal offense. Also, the link in 5.2.1, page 19, brings you to a page that states "For contracts dated before April 4, 2016". Is this the current policy or is there an updated link to the current policy?

Answer.

PSPC will request this declaration prior to contract award

281 Question.

- 1. With respect to the Canadian Content requirement, if the Bidder only proposes the delivery of analytical results rather than a license to software do the tools used to conduct the analytics work need to be considered as part of the Canadian Content certification. In other words, where propriety software is used to derive results, but no software use rights flow to Canada, is the Canadian Content certification then limited only to services rather than goods and services?
- 2. Is Canada willing to include SACC N0000C (Limitation of Liability Information Management/Information Technology) in the resulting contract?

Answer.

- 1. See other similar Answers, example 146 and 270.
- 2. No.

282

Question.

Do you have any specific requirements for the procurement of specialized equipment? For example, we require to purchase a Near Infrared Spectroscopy Device, but it would be over 50% of our milestone one cost. Is there a way to make this evident in the cost breakdown?

Answer.

All material costs (including purchase of specialized equipment) must be detailed under "Materials" in Cost Proposal Breakdown.

Add the information into the cost break down.

283 Question.

- 1. Academic collaboration: to achieve better results, I am collaborating with my colleagues in University of X. I'd like to know which section I should clarify this collaboration and whether I need to justify the budget sharing between the parties. If yes, which section should we do it?
- 2. Industrial partnership: we were invited by XX Inc. the largest mobile robotics company in Canada to participate in this call. I am wondering what is the exact role of an industrial partner in the call Component 1a (SRL up to 6 only) and whether they can receive the shared funding for their participation? If not, can we justify a budget for buying or renting their equipment as well as labour cost for system integration and testing?

Answer.

- Collaborators will be treated as subcontractors of the lead bidder. The work to be carried out by subcontractors should be identified as such in the proposal and the associated cost reflected in the Cost Proposal Breakdown. It is up to the lead bidder to make cost-sharing arrangement with subcontractors a.
 The answer to (1) above applies.
- Question. I have just been informed about your recent initiative Innovation for Defence Excellence and Security (IDEaS), which is a most interesting call for innovation.

My company X Ltd. is a UK registered micro SME which is a research oriented organization. We have developed some exciting technologies that can give revolutionary solutions to armed forces. In this context I would like kindly to ask you if my company X is it eligible to a submit alone a proposal to IDEaS or it needs to join forces with a Canadian business to submit a joint proposal?

Answer.

Please review answer 146.

285 Question.

- 1. We're wondering what the scope of each of the "Project Objective" and "Project Overview" sections is understood to be, in other words whether they're meant to describe our work for phase 1a or the entire project through multiple phases. Currently we understand "project objective" to encompass the entire project through all phases, while we describe our work in phase 1a in "project overview" and we'd like to know if that is optimal.
- 2. Our two projects are complementary, but completely independent, which brings about the two following questions.
 - a. We'd like to know what the deadline is to begin working on each project if they are accepted, whether we could start in January 2019 or April 2019 per example if that provides us with the best resources to execute on the projects, or if we'd have to begin immediately after obtaining a contract.
 - b.
 If both proposals are accepted, is it possible to delay the beginning of one project with respect to the other, starting the first in January 2019 and the second in March 2019 per example. This would be very helpful in terms of resource allocation and project coordination.

Answer. (1) The CFP pertains to Component 1a. See answer to Q268.

(2) (a) it is up to the bidder to propose a work schedule aligns with the requirements of this CFP.

(b) no.

286 Question.

Regarding the eligible expenses:

- since we are an academic institution, does the "10.40. Research and Development
 Contracts with Universities and Colleges" section of the Supply manual supersede the
 "eligible costs" section of the IDEaS CFP (Section 3.5)? The supply manual section
 allows for overhead to be charged, while the eligible costs section of the CFP does not
 allow for "administrative overhead" so I am just wondering which one applies to our
 researchers.
- 2. Does the cost of releasing the researcher working on the solution from her teaching responsibilities count as an "incremental resourcing costs"; so is course release an

- eligible cost? In 10.40 of the supply manual "professional salaries" are an allowable expense, so we're wondering if course release fits into this category, or if it technically is not a salary and therefore not eligible.
- 3. Are conference travel and other knowledge transfer activity costs eligible expenses?