

## **SOLICITATION NUMBER 24062-19-096**

### **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

(1) What is the context for this regulatory Review?

- Regulation plays an important role in protecting health and safety, setting marketplace norms, and other public policy objectives. However, regulation is often cited as a barrier to innovation, and sometimes as an incentive to innovation. Most recently, in December 2017 Report to the Minister of Finance, the Advisory Council on Economic Growth identified the need for the Government of Canada to develop a regulatory approach that is able to “evolve to better fit an economy where innovation and change are the norm.”
- In the 2018 Budget, the Government of Canada committed to pursuing a regulatory reform agenda focused on supporting innovation and business investment through increased regulatory agility, transparency and responsiveness.
- To this end, TBS is conducting a Review to examine ways to modernize regulatory policy and management across regulatory domains, including in the targeted sectors of agri-food and aquaculture, health and bio-sciences and transportation and infrastructure.

(2) How many regulations does the government have?

- There are presently over 2,600 regulations in force.
- The data file provided by Justice Canada contains the 2,600 regulations in force as well as regulations that have since been repealed and statutory instruments that are not considered regulations for the purposes of this review.

(3) What are some of the main drivers behind the regulatory Review?

- While Canada has a strong regulatory system, there is an increased need for regulatory modernization due to socioeconomic changes, digital disruption, business growth, and growing global trade.
- Canada is seeking to create a more effective, agile, responsive and transparent system.

(4) How does AI fit into the review?

- The engagement of the artificial intelligence community is intended to enable TBS to draw insights on federal regulations and the federal regulatory system (e.g. conflicting or overlapping rules; relationships between regulations; markers of regulatory approaches that support innovation).

(5) How does the procurement work?

- TBS is posting this Request for Information on [buyandsell.gc.ca](http://buyandsell.gc.ca). Based on the feedback received from industry partners at the Industry Days, TBS will then decide on an appropriate procurement mechanism.
- We anticipate that the RFP will result in:
  - a. Awarding a contract to one or more successful bidders

- b. Establishing a pre-approved vendor list from which departments can procure goods or services for a period of time after contract award.

(6) How does the context for this regulatory Review align with the Industry day event?

- This event is intended to build a conversation regarding advanced analytics and the data community. It would engage the advanced data analytics community both in person and by videoconference across the country and allow for feedback on how the community would want to work with TBS on such work.

(7) What are the benefits for TBS and the AI community?

- Insights gained from the application of advanced data analytics and machine learning techniques to regulations will help push TBS' modernization agenda forward. In terms of the broader community, the application of these techniques to legal information is not new, but legislative research can always benefit from new approaches. As the companies that participate in the challenge retain the intellectual property rights, they will be able to market their product/prototype/proof-of-concept to interested parties. In addition, SMEs would benefit greatly from having access to a tool that would allow them to navigate the regulatory landscape.

(8) How do I use the data from Justice Canada?

- The archive contains XML machine readable files. The statutory instruments that are outside the scope of the project all have SI file name prefix (English) TR (French). The repealed regulations contain <Repealed></Repealed> tags. Please note, that regulations may be repealed in part or in full.

(9) What other data sources will be made available?

- Additional data sources are provided but participants are welcome to make use of any publicly available information. TBS is also prepared to discuss with other government data sets could be relevant.

(10) Is there any restriction to the AI techniques or algorithms that should be used for the proof of concept?

- There are no restrictions regarding the techniques or algorithms, as long as the methodology of the techniques or algorithms can be disclosed/explained to the jury in camera.