

**Letter of Interest – Request for Information  
Science Vessel Charter(s): Information Session on Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
(DFO) Requirements – Central and Arctic**

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) will be releasing a Request for Information and hosting an Industry Engagement Day Session prior to issuing a Request for Supply Arrangement (RFSA) for research vessel charter(s). This engagement with industry seeks to help potential bidders increase their understanding of the science requirements for vessel capabilities as well as DFO's procurement process for vessel charter(s).

**Description**

DFO is seeking capable research vessel charter(s) (vessel and crew) to conduct and deliver 'at-sea' field programs. The research mission's at-sea will vary in requirements as they relate to different ocean science operations (e.g. oceanography, marine mammal studies, hydrography, etc.) and fisheries science (e.g. stock assessment, biodiversity, habitat management, etc.). The requirements for these research vessel charter(s) will also vary depending on the location of the science mission(s) (e.g. Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic Oceans, etc.). The potential requirement for research vessel charter(s) is for multiple programs and could range from 28 to 265 days annually with options for multiple years.

**Industry Information Session**

The second of three (3) information sessions will be held on April 16, 2019 at 9AM Central Time at the Freshwater Institute, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Date, time and location of subsequent session in the Pacific Region will be communicated via Buy and Sell at a later date.

The Central and Arctic information session will include:

- an overview of the technical requirements of the Central and Arctic science programs;
- an overview of the procurement process; and
- an opportunity to see first-hand some of the scientific instrumentation that may be used and/or deployed during the missions at sea.

There will also be an opportunity to meet one-on-one with DFO representatives on April 16, 2019 and seek individual clarification on what was presented the previous day at the information session. Bidders who wish to have this time will be assigned a session. Sessions will run for a maximum of 30 minutes beginning at 1PM Central Time

Comments and feedback from vessel operators and/or potential bidders concerning draft elements of the categorization and qualification of vessel(s) will be accepted in the form of Q&As on each individual element comprising the solicitation process. Q&A's will be accepted at Industry day or before at the email address listed below.

There are two ways to attend the information session held on April 16, 2019:

1. In person:
  - RSVP to [Vessel-Clearance.XNCR@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:Vessel-Clearance.XNCR@dfo-mpo.gc.ca). In your response please indicate the name of the individual(s) and the company or affiliation that they are representing. This is mandatory in order gain access to this government facility.
2. Attend virtually via the online meeting platform WebEx:
  - RSVP to [Vessel-Clearance.XNCR@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:Vessel-Clearance.XNCR@dfo-mpo.gc.ca). Please indicate the email address you would like the meeting invitation sent to.

The deadline to RSVP for either method is April 09, 2019 at 16:00 Eastern Time.

This is not a solicitation, and there is no commitment with respect to the issuance of a future contract/solicitation nor is this information session a pre-requisite to being able to submit proposals against a future RFSA.