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**SOLICITATION AMENDMENT
MODIFICATION DE L'INVITATION**

The referenced document is hereby revised; unless otherwise indicated, all other terms and conditions of the Solicitation remain the same.

Ce document est par la présente révisé; sauf indication contraire, les modalités de l'invitation demeurent les mêmes.

Comments - Commentaires

Vendor/Firm Name and Address

Raison sociale et adresse du
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Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution

Linguistic Services Division / Division des services
linguistiques

Les Terrasses de la Chaudière

10, rue Wellington, 5e étage

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Québec

K1A 0S5

Title - Sujet Interpretation services	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation EN960-202683/A	Amendment No. - N° modif. 009
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client 20202683	Date 2020-04-03
GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-\$\$ZF-526-37471	
File No. - N° de dossier 526zf.EN960-202683	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM on - le 2020-04-17	Time Zone Fuseau horaire Eastern Standard Time EST
F.O.B. - F.A.B. Plant-Usine: <input type="checkbox"/> Destination: <input type="checkbox"/> Other-Autre: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à: Payer, Manon	Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur 526zf
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Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction:	

Instructions: See Herein

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Delivery Required - Livraison exigée	Delivery Offered - Livraison proposée
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Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of Vendor/Firm (type or print) Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du fournisseur/ de l'entrepreneur (taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie)	
Signature	Date

Amendment 009

The Amendment no. 009 is raised to advise you of questions and answers 105 and 106.

105. Why was the mention of "according to the best fit model" deleted from the clause? Although you identify the components of best fit, without actually stating that selection is based on the best fit model, no one has any idea as to the weighting given to each component and whether all components are taken into account before coming to a decision.

Clause 7.3.2. - Task Authorization which read as follows in 2019:

"At the Project Authority's discretion, Contractors will be assigned to specific events, the work will be attributed according to the best fit model based on language profile, security clearance, location, availability and quality index."

Clause 7.1.3 Task Authorization – Allocation of work in current RFP EN960-202683/A

"The work will be attributed according to the language profile, security clearance, location, availability, detailed in the TA and the quality index."

Answer:

Although the "best fit" term was removed from the Request for Proposal, when compared to 2019, the process of allocating task authorizations to freelancers remains the same. There is no weighting applied to components as the methodology is based on a past or failed basis.

The freelancers who have an open contract with the Translation Bureau (TB) and are meeting the language profile, the security clearance, location, availability and are maintaining a green quality index will be considered. Additional factors such as the availability of the freelancer and the location of the event will be taken into consideration when allocating a task authorization. In order to assign work fairly and in a transparent manner, the TB does a rotation between freelancers appearing in the service provider's database.

In certain circumstances, the specific expertise of an interpreter can be used to prioritize the solicitation of his/her services (referred to as best fit in the Interpreter Guide). For example, the services of a freelancer with a degree/expertise in biology could be prioritized to cover a conference on wildlife.

106. My understanding of the Request for Proposal (RFP) in 2019, was that the approximate total value of the contract for each individual interpreter was approximately \$100,000.

1) Why has a change been introduced as per question and answer 81?

2) If the total value of an interpreter's contract is now based on the historical annual business volume of the previous three fiscal years, what happens if the interpreter has attained the total value of her contract? Will this prevent her from getting more work under the open contract during 2020-2021? In other words, will interpreters be penalized if they reach their maximum total value as according to item **7.7.2 Limitation of Expenditure - Cumulative Total of all Task Authorizations** of the RFP: "No increase in the total liability of Canada will be authorized or paid to the Contractor unless an increase has been approved, in writing, by the Contracting Authority" which represents an extra step and a waiting period while the interpreter gets that approval?

3) Are not all suppliers supposed to be treated on an equal footing?

Answer:

- 1) Due to the current context surrounding the coronavirus disease COVID-19 and in order to limit the commitment of funding for the open contracts, the value of a contract will be established based on the highest business volumes, with the Translation Bureau, over a three year historical period basis.
- 2) The interpretation contracts will be closely monitored and amended as required before it reaches the total value of their contract.
- 3) It is for Canada to establish the level of services it will require based on an open and transparent manner. One can appreciate that some freelancers may be located in an area where conferences or parliamentary events volumes are lower than in other parts of Canada such as larger cities located in central Canada provinces. Establishing an open contract of \$100k for each and every freelancers, without taking into consideration these variables, could lead to high expectations of upcoming business volumes (creating unfounded expectations). The said methodology is based on sound historical data, the Translation Bureau considers this methodology as fair and transparent.