



**RETURN BIDS TO:  
RETOURNER LES SOUMISSIONS À:**

Bid Receiving - PWGSC / Réception des  
soumissions - TPSGC  
11 Laurier St. / 11, rue Laurier  
Place du Portage, Phase III  
Core 0B2 / Noyau 0B2  
Gatineau, Québec K1A 0S5  
Bid Fax: (819) 997-9776

**LETTER OF INTEREST  
LETTRE D'INTÉRÊT**

Comments - Commentaires

Vendor/Firm Name and Address  
Raison sociale et adresse du  
fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur

Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution  
North Warning System & Assoc. Projects/Bureau du  
système d'alerte du nord et projets associés  
Aerospace Systems Directorate  
Dir. des systèmes aérospaciaux  
455 Blvd de la Carrière,  
11 ieme étage  
Gatineau  
Quebec  
K1A 0K2

<b>Title - Sujet</b> NWS Project	
<b>Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation</b> W8485-157352/A	<b>Date</b> 2020-06-01
<b>Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client</b> W8485-157352	<b>GETS Ref. No. - N° de réf. de SEAG</b> PW-\$\$NX-005-27797
<b>File No. - N° de dossier</b> 005nx.W8485-157352	<b>CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME</b>
<b>Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin</b> <b>at - à 02:00 PM</b> <b>on - le 2020-06-16</b>	
<b>Time Zone</b> <b>Fuseau horaire</b> Eastern Daylight Saving Time EDT	
<b>F.O.B. - F.A.B.</b> <b>Plant-Usine:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Destination:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Other-Autre:</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à:</b> Morin, Nancy	<b>Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur</b> 005nx
<b>Telephone No. - N° de téléphone</b> (873) 355-4709 ( )	<b>FAX No. - N° de FAX</b> ( ) -
<b>Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction:</b> <b>Destination - des biens, services et construction:</b>  Specified Herein Précisé dans les présentes	

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

<b>Delivery Required - Livraison exigée</b> See Herein	<b>Delivery Offered - Livraison proposée</b>
<b>Vendor/Firm Name and Address</b> <b>Raison sociale et adresse du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur</b>	
<b>Telephone No. - N° de téléphone</b> <b>Facsimile No. - N° de télécopieur</b>	
<b>Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of Vendor/Firm</b> <b>(type or print)</b> <b>Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du fournisseur/ de l'entrepreneur (taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie)</b>	
<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>

## **1.0 Purpose and Nature of this RFI**

This Request for Information (RFI) is to obtain information and feedback from Inuit Firms with regard to the renewal of the North Warning System (NWS) Project.

Inuit Firm shall have the same meaning as “Inuit firm” as provided in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, “Inuit Business” as provided in the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement and “Inuvialuit business, “Inuvialuit companies” as provided in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement and the Inuvialuit Business List.

Formal Engagements between Canada and the Designated Inuit Organization or designated representatives from all three Land Claims began in October 2018 and is ongoing. All information submitted to Canada in response to this RFI will form part of ongoing engagements and Inuit benefits considerations.

The nature of this RFI is to achieve the following:

- Provide Inuit Firms with information on the NWS requirements as set out in the Draft Statement of Work Overview in Annex B;
- Invite Inuit Firms to participate in One-on-One Teleconference Meeting sessions;
- Request detailed information and feedback from Inuit Firms to determine how many Inuit Firms currently meet some or all of the operational requirements either as a prime or sub-contractor, what expertise do the Inuit Firms currently have; the volume of business that the Inuit Firms could support; where the Inuit Firms are located; and which Inuit Firms are currently on established Inuit Business Directories.
- Determine the capability of Inuit Firms to satisfy the NWS requirements and obtain feedback on any issues that would impact their ability to deliver on the department’s requirements and schedules;
- Inform and engage Inuit Firms on legislative, policy and certifications required to meet the operational requirements; and
- Assess the existing skill level and degree of formal qualifications among the Inuit labour force.

## **2.0 RFI Questions for Inuit Firms:**

Please refer to Annex “A” below for a list of questions;

## **3.0 Format of Responses**

The questions contained in Annex “A” are intended to elicit feedback of interest to Canada and provide guidance to Inuit Firms interested in participating in One-on-One Teleconference Meeting sessions.

Participants are requested to submit their responses to the questions utilizing the same numbering format in an electronic format preferably compatible with MS Word 2013 or Adobe PDF or in a format that does not restrict copy/paste or printing of text functions in any way by the RFI closing date to permit proper consideration. Any additional questions, comments and concerns that participants may have should be submitted and identified as “Other Questions, Comments and Concerns”.

Participants should submit only pertinent information in response to this request. The inclusion of general marketing or technical manuals is unnecessary and will not be considered unless they provide specific information that has been requested in this document. Responses to this RFI will be accepted until 02:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST) on the 16th June 2020.

Participants are encouraged to identify, in the information they share with Canada, any information that they feel is proprietary, third-party or personal. Please note that Canada may be obligated by law (e.g. in response to a request under the Access of Information and Privacy Act) to disclose proprietary or commercially-sensitive information concerning a respondent (for more information: <http://lawslois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/a-1/>).

#### **4.0 Invitation to One-on-One Teleconference Meeting session**

One-on-One Teleconference Meeting sessions will be held during the period of 17 to 30 June 2020 and will take place in 60 minute slots between the hours of 8:00 am to 4:00 pm EDT. These One-on-One Teleconference Meeting sessions will be an opportunity for Inuit Firms to provide further information and seek further clarification on all topics associated with the RFI. Each Inuit Firm will be provided the same amount of time (60 minutes) in the One-on-One Teleconference meeting sessions.

All Inuit Firms interested in participating in the One-on-One Teleconference Meetings must notify the Contracting Authority via e-mail, or telephone, no later than **02:00 pm EST on 16 June 2020**. Interested Inuit Firms must advise the name, position and contact information for each and every participant. Allotted times will be established on a first-come-first serve basis. Specific details to access the teleconference Meetings will be provided by the Contracting Authority to interested participants at that time.

Given that the One-on-One Meeting sessions are being conducted via teleconference, we request that no more than four (4) representatives participate due to the restrictions to the telephone bridge. Participants are responsible for ensuring that the Contracting Authority is notified at least 72 hours in advance of any changes to the list of representatives participating in the teleconference meeting.

Canada may share all information, with respect to non-proprietary and non-confidential enquiries received, and the response to such enquiries, without revealing the source(s) of such enquiries.

#### **5.0 Comprehensive Land Claims Agreements (CLCAs)**

The NWS is subject to the following Comprehensive Land Claims Agreements (CLCAs) (which are legislated as law): the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, and the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement.

#### **6.0 Treasury Board Directives:**

The following TB Directives will also be taken into account: the Directive on Government Contracts, Including Real Property Leases, in the Nunavut Settlement Area; and the Co-operation Agreement between the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and the Department of National Defence Concerning the Operation and Maintenance of the North Warning System.

#### **7.0 Background NWS Information**

The North Warning System (NWS) is a radar surveillance system comprising 47 radar sites extending across the Arctic from the Western part of the Yukon to the southern coast of Labrador. It is an essential element in the provision of aerospace surveillance information as a contribution to Canada's sovereignty and Canada's participation in the North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD) with the United States. The radar sites and their associated equipment and facilities are currently supported from five (5) Logistics Support Sites

located at: Inuvik, Cambridge Bay, Hall Beach, Iqaluit and Goose Bay. The radar sites are linked by a satellite communications network to the Canadian Air Defence Sector in North Bay, Ontario. The Control Centre located at CFB North Bay, enables the continuous remote monitoring of all sites on a 24/7 basis. The NWS Support Centre also located at CFB North Bay provides depot level maintenance and logistics for the NWS.

The North Warning System is a major endeavor and in view of its role in the effectiveness of the North American Air Defence, the system simply cannot be allowed to fail and thus requires the highest degree of maintenance to guarantee operational integrity.

Technological advances over the past decades enabled the continuous remote management, which includes the regular assessment of monitoring equipment, the continuous updating of procedures and transportation of resources (mobile support teams) to the remote unmanned sites. The NWS mandatory requirements include preparing and implementing annual maintenance plans, five year sustainment plans and corrective maintenance as required in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations; to conduct its operations using ISO 9000 standards to implement risk identification and mitigation processes and procedures and continuously develop and maintain internal quality assurance and quality control procedures.

There are additional requirements under the NWS Project for Work to be called-up on an “as-and-when-requested basis”. This additional Work will be initiated, either by the prime NWS Contractor or by Canada when required, to address technology obsolescence, changes required as a result of new legislative requirements and system/component upgrades to ensure the NWS remains fully operational.

This Work will be contracted separately, by soliciting bids in accordance with Canada’s procurement obligations under each of the applicable Comprehensive Land Claims Agreements and associated Treasury Board Directives mentioned in Articles 5 and 6 above.

## **8.0 DRAFT Statement of Work Overview**

See Annex “B”

## **9.0. Potential Scope and Constraints**

A National Security Exception or National Security Exception – Special Contracting Caveat may be invoked for any resulting procurement process(es).

While this RFI is not subject to the Controlled Goods Program, any resulting procurement process will have Controlled Goods Program requirements. For information pertaining to the Controlled Goods Program, please refer to the Public Services and Procurement Canada (<http://ssi-iss.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/dmccqd/index-eng.html>) website.

There are no security requirements associated with this RFI, however security requirements may be associated with any resulting procurement processes. Additional information on the security requirements, when identified, will be communicated on <https://buyandsell.gc.ca/> as part of any potential procurement process.

Should participants require information on personnel and organization security screening or security clauses, please refer to the Canadian Industrial Security Directorate (CISD), Industrial and Security Program of Public Services and Procurement Canada (<http://ssi-iss.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/index-eng.html>) website.

While this RFI is not subject to ISO 9000 standards, any resulting procurement process will be subject to ISO Certifications, please refer to <https://www.iso.org/iso-9001-quality-management.html>.

## 10.0 Legislation, Government Policies, Certifications

In addition to the legislation, or specific qualifications addressed in each Section of the DRAFT SOW overview, the following is a list of some legislation, government policies and required certifications that will govern any resulting procurement processes:

- Defense Production Act (DPA)
- Federal Contractors Program for Employment Equity (FCP-EE)
- Government Contract Regulations (GCR)
- Integrity Provisions
- PSPC Policy on Green Procurement
- Canada to own Intellectual Property Rights
- Software licensing
- Insurance Requirements

## 11.0 Obligation

The issuance of this RFI does not create an obligation for Canada to issue a subsequent Request for Proposal and does not bind Canada legally or otherwise, to enter into any agreements. This process is not a bid solicitation and a contract will not result from this request.

All information submitted to Canada in response to this process may be used by Canada in the development of future procurement processes.

No payment will be made for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a response to the RFI or participation in the One-on-One Teleconference meeting sessions.

## 12.0 Schedule

The following is the tentative schedule associated with both the RFI and potential procurement processes:

Release of RFI:	2 June 2020
Deadline for RFI Submission:	16 June 2020
One-on-One Teleconference Meetings:	17 – 30 June 2020
Engagement with LCAs:	Ongoing
Potential Contract(s) Award:	April 2022 or April 2024

## 13.0 Contracting Authority

Nancy Morin  
Supply Team Leader/NWS Contract Authority  
Public Services and Procurement Canada  
Land and Aerospace Equipment Procurement Support Sector  
E-Mail: Nancy.Morin@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca  
Tel: 873-355-4709

## ANNEX "A"

### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION QUESTIONS FOR INUIT FIRMS

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

This template is intended to provide guidance to Inuit Firms in preparing for the One-on-One Teleconference Meetings. Use the written format of your choice, but keep the same section numbering to facilitate Canada's analysis of all responses.

#### Section 1: Executive Summary

- 1) Should you bid on this requirement, please describe whether you intend to be the prime contractor or a potential subcontractor or whether you plan on forming a joint venture;
- 2) What services are you currently providing that are the same or similar to these requirements?
- 3) What is your current workforce capacity (retention/attrition and other technical considerations) and what are the current skills or training gaps for employment?
- 4) Where is your company located? Is your company currently on established Inuit Business Directories?

#### Section 2: DRAFT Statement of Work Overview (Annex B)

- 1) Is there sufficient information provided to understand the requirements?
- 2) The requirements foresees that there will be a need for facility security clearance at the Secret level while most contractor resources would need to be cleared at the Enhanced Reliability Level. Based on this, do you foresee any issues establishing security clearance requirement?
- 3) Do you have comments/concerns regarding mandatory standards described in the DRAFT Statement of Work Overview?
- 4) Do you have comments/concerns regarding the Program Management Requirements?
- 5) Explain your current quality control and assurance practices. (Inspection, checks and tests, including current experience developing written reports describing the outcome of quality assurance activities);
- 6) Given the remoteness of the sites, the restrictions with Government Furnished Airlift, and the co-ordination with other suppliers, are there any issues that would impact your ability to deliver on the department's mandated requirements and/or schedules?
- 7) Some requirements under the DRAFT Statement of Work Overview require ITAR (International Traffic in Arms Regulations), TAA (Technical Assistance Agreement), or CGP (Controlled Goods Program) restrictions, do you see any issues establishing certifications?

### **Section 3: Potential Scope and Constraints**

- 1) Would you have any issues submitting the required signed Certifications herein?
- 2) Do you have any comments/concerns with:
  - Defence Production Act (DPA);
  - Controlled Goods Program (CGP)
  - Federal Contractors Program for Employment Equity (FCP-EE)
  - Government Contract Regulations (GCR)
  - Integrity Provisions
  - PSPC Policy on Green Procurement
  - Canada to own Intellectual Property Rights
  - Software licencing
  - Insurance Requirements

### **Section 7: Other Comments / Questions / Concerns:**

Are there any other comments or issues that you consider relevant?