



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

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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

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Title - Sujet Nursing Services	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation 6D112-202491/A	Amendment No. - N° modif. 003
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client 6D112-202491	Date 2020-06-23
GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-\$\$XF-050-38038	
File No. - N° de dossier 050xf.6D112-202491	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
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AMENDMENT 003

Amendment 003 is raised to:

1. Provide answers to questions received with regards to this Request for Proposal (RFP); et
2. Delete the reference to the security requirements in Part 7 of the French version of the RFP.

Note: Questions may have been modified and/or condensed.

Questions and Answers

Q13: In Attachment 1 of Part 4 of the Technical Criterion MTC2 for Stream 7 (Quebec) reads: "The Bidder must have provided a minimum of 5 Registered Nurses (RNs) provide nursing services on a standby basis at least 5 times in the last 2 years from the date of this solicitation."

For criterion MTC1, it requires: " The Bidder must have provided a minimum of 20 Registered Nurses (RNs) to perform nursing services similar to those described in the Statement of Work at least 5 times in the last 2 years from the date of this solicitation."

For criterion MTC3, it requires: "The Bidder must have provided a minimum of 20 Registered Nurses (RNs) to perform nursing services similar to those described in the Statement of Work in both official languages, English and French, at least 5 times in the last 2 years from the date of this solicitation."

In order to adequately meet this criterion, is it possible to know what is meant by "nursing services on a standby basis". This clarification will allow us to fully understand what Canada wishes to assess for this criterion.

A13: The requirement for nursing services on a standby basis only applies to MTC2. Standby refers to situations in which the Contractor has had to provide nurses on a standby basis i.e. they are prepared to work as soon as they are formally notified to do so.

Q14: In regard to Question 13, can the 20 registered nurses in MTC1 also be the same as the 20 in MTC3? Will Canada take this into consideration when assessing these criteria?

A14: Yes, the Bidder may identify the same 20 resources to demonstrate compliance with MTC1 and MTC3.

Q15: In Part 7 - Resulting Contract Clauses, article 2.1.1, b), point ii), it states: "proof that the proposed replacement nurse has the required security clearance granted by Canada, if applicable;" whereas in Part 1 - General Information - The National Security Exception notice, it says: "PSPC has invoked the National Security Exception under all of Canada's trade agreements and, as a result, the usual disciplines of the trade agreements do not apply to this procurement". In addition, in article 3 - Security requirements, it is written: "There is no security requirement applicable to the Contract". Do the RNs assigned to the contract must have a reliability clearance or not?

A15: There are no security requirements in this contract. However, the French version will be updated to remove the security reference in In Part 7 - Resulting Contract Clauses, article 2.1.1, b), point ii).

Q16: For the mandatory criteria in Stream 7 - Quebec, at MTC1, it is written:

To demonstrate this criteria, the Bidder must provide the following information at a minimum:

- a. The name of the client organization;
- b. The first and last name of the Registered Nurses provided;
- c. The location in which the services were provided;
- d. Description of the services;
- e. The contact point for the client including name, title, email address and telephone number;
- f. The Contract number or reference number, if applicable; and
- g. The start and end dates for the provision of the services in Day/Month/Year format

Our reference is a client for whom there are multiple locations where services are being rendered. We would like to know if points b and c can be grouped so as to present the first and last names of the 20 nurses and for each nurse we will indicate the place(s) (establishments of our client) where he/she worked.

A16: The Bidder may have provided the required number of nurses over several different contracts but the period covered must be the same continuous 14 day period. If the time period covered is longer it will be measured in units of 14 continuous days. In addition, during the 14 day period the actual nurses may be different people but the minimum number of resources must be provided over the same period.

Q17: In regard to question 16, point g, what does Canada expect? Is it the start date of the contract with each client or does it mean for each nurse you must also enter the start and end dates of each of the contracts with this client in their different locations?

A17: The nurses do not need to work at the same location but all 20 must have been provided to the client during the exact same time period and under the same contract. Therefore, the start date and end dates would be for the contract.

Q18: Would it be possible to have our Nurses and Nurse practitioners provide the screening services remotely (e.g. via a Healthcare app)? Or do the Nurses definitively have to travel to the physical sites?

A18: The work must be done onsite at the physical locations.

Q19: A majority of the Mandatory Technical Criteria state that bidders must have experience providing RNs who performed "nursing services similar to those described in the Statement of Work at least 5 times in the last 2 years" and also states that services have been for a "minimum 14 continuous calendar days". Would Canada please clarify the

meaning of “5 times” (i.e. 5 shifts, 5 weeks etc.) and “14 continuous calendar days” (i.e. is this referring to the contract length)?

A19: The Bidder may have provided the required number of nurses over several different contracts but the period covered must be the same continuous 14 day period. If the time period covered is longer it will be measured in units of 14 continuous days. In addition, during the 14 day period the actual nurses may be different people but the minimum number of resources must be provided over the same period.

Q20: **Clause H.1 in 1.2 Task Authorization under Resulting Contract Clauses states that “written confirmation that the resource has been fit-tested for a N-95 (or equivalent) mask in the last two years” will be required for TA responses. To allow for suitable preparation, would Canada please indicate which specific type of N-95 mask types will be offered during the contract and required for fit-testing?**

A20: An N95 mask or N95 respirator is a particulate-filtering face-piece respirator that meets the U.S. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) N95 classification of air filtration, meaning that it filters at least 95% of airborne particles. The fit testing must meet the CSA approved quantitative fit test as outlined in the Standards Council of Canada Can/CSA Z94.4-18.

Q21: **Section 9.2 Contractor’s Additional Obligations in the Statement of Work indicates that the nurses will be using their “own equipment for the performance of the Work”. Is Canada able to specify what equipment this will include, and provide a list of specifications for such equipment?**

A21: This question was previously answered in Amendment 001, Question 5. The Contractor has the option to provide its resources with its own equipment and to use any other equipment than what is listed in the Statement of Work, in particular in Annex A – 4.1.1; 4.2; and 9.1 that is being provided by PHAC.

Q22: **Would it be considered compliant if a proponent had several clients making up the minimum service levels described (i.e. providing at least 5 RNs on standby at a time for multiple clients concurrently), as opposed to a single client?**

A22: Yes, the Bidder may have provided the required number of nurses over several different contracts but the period covered must be the same continuous 14 day period. If the time period covered is longer it will be measured in units of 14 continuous days. In addition, during the 14 day period the actual nurses may be different people but the minimum number of resources must be provided over the same period.

Q23: **We provide >20 RNs at a time for clients on a regular basis and frequently more than one client concurrently (i.e. multiples of 20 RNs at a time), however our deployments are typically less than 14 consecutive days, is it possible to waive the 14 consecutive day minimum requirement for stream 2 in order for our Bid to be compliant?**

A23: The 14 day continuous period will not be waived but the Bidder could have provided different resources during the period as long as the minimum number of resources was provided during the period.

Q24: In MTC 1 the requirement states that “The nursing services must have taken place in the same province or territory for the stream for which the Bidder is bidding, and must have been for a minimum of 14 continuous calendar days”. Please confirm if this refers to the length of contract and not that the nurse would have had to work 14 days straight.

A24: See the answer to the above question.

Q25: We are actively providing services similar to those requested by PHAC via other healthcare professionals such as Advanced Care Paramedics, Primary Care Paramedics, and Registered / Licensed Practice Nurses. These professionals offer similar levels of experience relating to the administration of health assessments, performing COVID-19 screening, and utilizing PPE. Would PHAC be open to accepting proposals and subsequently utilizing some or all of the above professions to deliver the requested services?

A25: The requirement will remain for Registered Nurses only.

Changes

C3: Not applicable for the English version of the RFP.

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS REMAIN UNCHANGED
