

ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE (ACAN)

An Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN) allows departments and agencies to post a notice, for no less than fifteen calendar days, indicating to the supplier community that it intends to award a good, service or construction contract to a pre-identified contractor. If no other supplier submits, during the fifteen calendar day posting period, a statement of capabilities that meet the requirements set out in the ACAN, the competitive requirements of the government's contracting policy have been met. Following notification to suppliers not successful in demonstrating that their statement of capabilities meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, the contract may then be awarded using the Treasury Board's electronic bidding authorities.

If other potential suppliers submit statements of capabilities during the fifteen-calendar day posting period, and meet the requirements set out in the ACAN, the department or agency must proceed to a full tendering process on either the government's electronic tendering service or through traditional means, in order to award the contract.

Contracting Officer Name:

Michelle Owens

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DESCRIPTIVE TITLE: Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) Study of Western Canada

BACKGROUND

Western Economic Diversification (WD) works to foster economic growth across western Canada. WD also supports the delivery of Canada's Innovation and Skills Plan to drive growth, build a culture of innovation and brand Canada as one of the most innovative and competitive countries in the world.

Inclusive growth is one of two key priorities for WD, which includes a commitment to increase the economic participation of women and youth. A significant portion of WD programming supports entrepreneurs and SMEs. However, entrepreneurship data specific to western Canada is virtually non-existent and there is a notable gap on women and youth entrepreneurs. To inform policy and program recommendations, the department currently relies on:

1. GEM data on entrepreneurship at the national and sometimes provincial-level, with occasional reports on special topics;
2. 2019 GEM studies on women and youth entrepreneurship in western Canada, and;
3. Statistics Canada's data from the Survey on Financing and Growth of Small and Medium Enterprises, which cannot be disaggregated by gender or age.

WD's programs and services must be responsive to the needs of western Canadians in order to achieve results on departmental priorities. Work on these complex challenges requires bringing together industry, post-secondary institutions, major research facilities and governments to form strategic partnerships, mobilize knowledge, and streamline service delivery. Localized data and expertise better positions WD to contribute to the national dialogue and to tailor solutions within a diverse regional context.

GEM is the largest and longest running study of entrepreneurship in the world. GEM data is internationally recognized as a global standard and is used extensively by governments and

organizations such as the World Bank, World Economic Forum and the OECD.

To inform the department's policy, program, convenor and advocacy work, WD is seeking assistance from a research consultant to conduct GEM research specific to western women and youth entrepreneurs.

REQUIREMENTS/RESULTS:

Capture localized data on the current state of both women and youth entrepreneurship in western Canada, while ensuring a reasonable level of data availability and quality. The data collected must be comparable to the 2019 GEM studies of women and youth entrepreneurship in western Canada in order to compile a time-series dataset, as well as to compare results nationally or internationally.

The final reports must identify opportunities to make policies and programs more responsive to the needs of women and youth entrepreneurs, or areas to pursue targeted action. The product must enable WD to develop strategic partnerships with other researchers, program delivery agents, and other government departments to further WD's policy agenda.

IDENTIFICATION OF CONTRACTOR

Name of Contractor: The Centre for Innovation Studies THECIS
Address: #125 Alastair Ross Technology Centre, 3553 31 St Street NW
City: Calgary, AB
Country: Canada

REASON FOR AWARDING CONTRACT TO THIS CONTRACTOR

THECiS is the exclusive Canadian agent for the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) program, the largest study of entrepreneurship in the world. The GEM Canada 2021 survey data collection needs to be completed and submitted to GEM by July, 2021 in order to produce analytical reports for release in July 2022.

ESTIMATED COST

The period of the contract will be from March 26, 2021 to September 30, 2022 and the total amount of the contract is estimated to be \$146,282.85 including taxes.

CMM Shared Drive: Contract Unit: Templates - ACAN. Eng.doc

APPLICABLE TRADE AGREEMENTS AND APPLICABLE LIMITED TENDERING REASONS:

Sample wording should NAFTA & AIT be applicable

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) (T.B. 10.2.8(b)) are applicable. With the absence of competition for technical reasons and that the services can only be supplied by Company X and no reasonable alternative or substitute exists is the basis for the limited tendering.

**CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR WRITTEN SUPPLIER RESPONSES
CHALLENGING THIS REQUIREMENT IS 2:00 P.M, EASTERN TIME, 2021-03-26.**

You are hereby notified that the government intends to solicit a bid and negotiate with the firm identified above.

If you wish to submit a written response showing that you are capable of meeting this requirement, it must be done not later than the closing date and time. As it is intended to proceed in a timely manner, responses received after the closing date will not be considered. The Crown reserves the right not to open this procurement to competition.

Responses received on or before the closing date will be considered solely for the purpose of deciding whether or not to conduct a competitive procurement. Information provided will be used by the Crown for technical evaluation purposes only and is not to be construed as a competitive solicitation. Your written response must provide sufficient evidence (e.g. specifications, technical data, drawings, or any other proof) that clearly demonstrates that your product or service is capable of fulfilling this requirement.

Suppliers that have submitted a response will be notified in writing of Western Economic Diversification's decision to continue with the non-competitive procurement or to compete the requirement.

Should you have any questions concerning this requirement, contact the contracting officer identified above. The Industry file number, the contracting officer's name and the closing date of the ACAN must appear on the outside of the envelope in block letters or, in the case of a facsimile transmission, on the covering page.