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NA
British Columbia

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

Public Works and Government Services Canada - Pacific
Region
401 - 1230 Government Street
Victoria, B. C.
V8W 3X4

Title - Sujet RFI - Diving Services	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation EZ187-212217/B	Date 2021-03-12
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client EZ187-212217	GETS Ref. No. - N° de réf. de SEAG PW-\$XLV-591-8199
File No. - N° de dossier XLV-0-43184 (591)	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM Pacific Daylight Saving Time PDT on - le 2021-04-16 Heure Avancée du Pacifique HAP	
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: Zwarich, Eric	Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur xl5591
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (250) 661-2347 ()	FAX No. - N° de FAX () -
Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction: Public Works and Government Services Canada See herein	

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

Delivery Required - Livraison exigée See Herein – Voir ci-inclus	Delivery Offered - Livraison proposée
Vendor/Firm Name and Address Raison sociale et adresse du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur	
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone Facsimile No. - N° de télécopieur	
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

**EZ187-212217 - Diving Services
Request For Information (RFI)**

1. Purpose

The Government of Canada is considering developing a procurement tool that will allow Government entities to acquire diving services in the province of British Columbia (BC) on an “as and when requested” basis.

Canada is seeking information from industry in order to develop a comprehensive tool that works for both industry and Government entities. Interested procurement tool users and service providers are requested to fill out the downloadable form named “EZ187-212217 Diving Services Questionnaire.pdf”.

2. Procurement Tool Description

Canada is interested in establishing a procurement tool which will allow Government entities to procure when and as needed diving services based on the geographical/regional location of the work, and the type of work that needs to be completed.

The plan is to divide the province into regions for which suppliers will be selected to provide specific services.

Canada is intending to put tools in place based on geographical areas of British Columbia, and dividing the type of services into two categories: Tidal Water access and Non-Tidal Waters or Shore Based Access.

Tidal Water Access is defined as having dive operations conducted off of a floating platform in the tidal waters of BC. The activities will be in remote locations on the coasts of British Columbia.

Tidal Water Access Regions will be zones that are created based on Marine Navigation Points:

1. North Coast – Smith inlet and North:
Tidal waters from Smith Inlet (Egg Island Lighthouse) North to Portland Canal up to Stewart, BC; from the west Coast of Haida Gwaii to the head of inlets, arms, and canals of the Northern Coast line.
2. Vancouver Island West Coast – Cape Scott to Pachena Point:
Tidal waters from Cape Scott Lighthouse South to Pachena Point Lighthouse.
3. North Vancouver Island Inside – Cape Scott – Across to Smith Inlet, down to Seymour Narrows:
Includes tidal waters from Cape Scott Lighthouse to Smith Inlet (Egg Island Lighthouse) south to Seymour Narrows (Chatham Point).
4. Central Vancouver Island Inside – Seymour Narrows to Bowen Island/Howe Sound, across to Nanaimo:
Includes Tidal Waters from Seymour Narrows (Chatham Point) to Flewett Point, across to Ruxton Passage, Breakwater Island to Thrasher Rock, then to the south end of Bowen Island (Point Cowan) and up Howe Sound starting at Point Atkinson.
5. South Vancouver Island:
Tidal Waters from Flewett Point to Thrasher Rock south to Saturna Island (East Point

Lighthouse); through boundary pass and up the Juan de Fuca Strait up to Pachena Point Lighthouse.

6. Lower Mainland:

Bowen Island South to Tsawwassen, including Fraser River waters up to Port Mann Bridge and Burrard Inlet waters up to and including Indian Arm and Port Moody.

Non Tidal Water Access and Shore Based Access service regions will be determined by Postal Codes. The determination of which region is applicable is the location of the work as covered by the Postal Code within British Columbia.

Non-Tidal Water Access is defined as consisting of diving operations which occur off of floating platforms in Non-Tidal waters such as lakes or rivers, where equipment is driven to location, launched, and then acts as the platform to support diving operations.

Shore based Access is defined as conducting diving operations where direct access to shore is available, such that equipment and supporting personnel are shore based either on a wharf, dock, or shoreline.

Postal Code regions are proposed as follows:

1. North Coastal BC:
 - Inside Passage and Haida Gwaii – V0T
 - Lower Skeena – V0V
 - Prince Rupert – V8J
 - Kitimat – V8C
 - Terrace - V8G
2. Northern BC
 - Northern BC – V0C
 - Atlin Region – V0W
 - Dawson Creek – V1G
 - Fort St. John – V1J
 - Omineca and Yellowhead – V0J
 - Prince George – V2L, V2K, V2N, V2M
3. Central Interior BC
 - Cariboo Region – V0K
 - Kamloops – V1S, V2C, V2E, V2H, V2B
 - Chilcotin Region – V0L
 - Merritt Region – V1K
 - Quesnel Region – V2J
 - North Okanagan – V0E
 - Williams Lake – V2G
4. Southern Interior
 - Similkameen Region – V0X
 - Salmon Arm – V1E
 - Vernon – V1T, V1B, V1H
 - Penticton – V2A
 - South Okanagan - V0H

- West Bank – V4T
 - Winfield – V4V
 - Kelowna – V1Y, V1P, V1X, V1V, V1W, V1Z
5. Kootenays
- Castlegar – V1N
 - Cranbrook – V1C
 - East Kootenays – V0B
 - Kimberly – V1A
 - Trail – V1R
 - Nelson – V1L
 - Upper Columbia – V0A
 - West Kootenays – V0G
6. Greater Vancouver Area
- Chilliwack – V2P, V2R, V4Z
 - Harrison Lake- V0M
 - Abbotsford – V3G, V4X, V2S, V2T
 - Mission – V2V, V4S
 - Maple Ridge – V2W, V2X, V4R
 - Pitt Meadows – V3Y
 - Port Coquitlam – V3B, V3E, V3C
 - Coquitlam – V3J, V3K
 - Port Moody – V3H
 - Langley – V3A, V4W, V1M, V2Y, V2Z
 - White Rock – V4B
 - Surrey – V3Z, V3S, V3T, V3X, V3R, V4N, V3V, V4P. V4A, V3W, V3Z
 - New Westminster – V3L, V3M
 - Burnaby – V5A, V5B, V5C, V5E, V5G, V5H, V5J, V3N
 - Richmond – V7B, V6Y, V6X, V6V, V7A, V6W, V7E, V7C
 - Delta – V4K, V4E, V4G, V4C, V4L, V4M
 - Vancouver -V6L, V5R, V6H, V6G, V6E, V6C, V6B, V6A, V5Z, V5Y, V5X, V5W, V6K, V5T, V5S, V5P, V6M, V5N, V5M, V5L, V5V, V7Y, V7X, V6Z, V6T, V6S, V6R, V6P, V6N, V5K, V6J, V7J, V7H, V7K, V7R, V7N, V7G, V7L, V7N, V7G, V7L, V7P, V7M, V7S, V7V, V7T, V7W
 - Squamish – V8B
 - Whistler – V8E
7. Northern Island and Sunshine Coast
- North Island/Sunshine Coast – V0N
 - Powell River – V8A
 - North Island and Bute Inland Region – V0P
 - Campbell River – V9W, V9H
8. Central Island
- Central Island – V0R
 - Cedar – V9X
 - Comox – V9M
 - Duncan – V9Lm

- Ladysmith – V9G
 - Parksville – V9P
 - Port Alberni – V9Y
 - Qualicum Beach – V9K
 - Nanaimo – V9S, V9T, V9V, V9R
9. South Island and Gulf Islands
- Victoria – V8W, V8T, V8V, V9E
 - Saanich – V8Z, V8N, V8Y, V8X, V8P, V8M
 - Esquimalt – V9A
 - Highlands – V9B
 - Juan De Fuca Shore – V0S
 - Metchosin V9C
 - Saltspring Island – V8K
 - Sidney – V8L
 - Sooke V9Z

Type of Work

Canada considers that the work will be on an as and when requested basis. Canada plans to create comprehensive divisions to the type of work so that the vendors can be ranked based on certain work elements rather than an overall generic cost analysis.

General Diving Services: Canada expects the majority of work required will be considered as general services. Canada is defining general services as work which does not require any special tools, other than the diving equipment and hand tools, to complete the work in the water.

For duration of work hours indicated below, the time is to be taken as hours in the water. Time to mobilize to and from the location is considered outside the task.

At this time Canada is considering the following separate divisions for qualifying vendors in each region:

1. General Diving Services – Short Term
 - Short amount of in water work required – Max 4 hours.
 - Visual Inspection Reporting after (No recording), or
 - Simple work using basic hand tools like covering of overboard discharge openings or rope removals.
 - Hand tool cleaning of fixed structures or systems (no Hull cleaning)
2. Detailed Inspections – Short Term
 - Short amount of in water work required – Max 4 hours.
 - Non-Construction Activities to determine conditions.
 - Location of all inspections are not considered as “Confined” by Regional Workers Compensation Board.
 - Inspection requires use of specialized underwater tools such as:
 - Video Recording Device – No Audio
 - Video and Audio recording Device.
 - Ultrasonic Thickness Measurements – Metal

- Ultrasonic Condition Measurement tool – Wood

3. General Diving Services – Longer Term

- Longer amount of in water work required – 4 to 12 hours.
- Visual Inspection Reporting after (No recording), or
- Simple work using basic hand tools like covering of overboard discharge openings or rope removals.
- Hand tool cleaning of fixed structures or systems (no Hull cleaning).

4. Detailed Inspections – Longer Term

- Longer amount of in water work required – 4 to 12 hours.
- Non-Construction Activities to determine conditions of systems/structures.
- Location of all inspections are not considered as “Confined” by Regional Workers Compensation Board.
- Inspection requires use of specialized underwater tools such as:
 - Video Recording Device – No Audio
 - Video and Audio recording Device.
 - Ultrasonic Thickness Measurements – Metal
 - Ultrasonic Condition Measurement tool – Wood

5. Underwater Repairs

- Longer in water work period – Up to 12 hour days per day
- More extensive or complicated work required which would be considered as minor construction, or repairs. Does not include welding.
- Pressure cleaning of fixed structures or systems.
- Propeller Polishing of Vessels.

NOTE: This procurement tool will not allow for Hull Cleaning of vessels due to DFO and TC invasive species concerns regarding hull cleaning.

6. Underwater Repairs – Welding - General

- Same as Item 5, but with underwater general welding required.

7. Underwater Repairs – Welding – Pipe

- Same as Item 5, but welding of pipe with a pressure requirements to be met.

8. Confined Space

- Confined Spaces such as cofferdams for construction activities.
- Diving on and in wrecked or sunken vessels.
- Diving under large structures where access to surface will be limited.

Other Possible Conditions

Canada is also considering that there are other elements to the work required to be done by Governments, such as:

- Emergency Call -ups – with at least 72 hours' notice
- Emergency Call-ups – 24 to 72 hours' notice.
- Emergency Call-ups – Less than 24 hours' notice.
- Security requirement – Reliability Status for employees, Designated Organization Screening (DOS) for the Company.
- Security requirement – Secret Security Clearance for employees, Facility Security Clearance (FSC) for the Company.
- Multiple Days of service required – 2-7 days on site consecutively
- Multiple Days of service required – Greater than 7 days on site consecutively.
- Vessel Usage – Flat daily rate for use of vessel to conduct work.

Canada requests information regarding these other possible conditions as to their impact on available services and method(s) of charging.

Mobilization Costs

Canada desires any procurement tool to have the flexibility to cover various needs by all Government departments. As such the tool is planned to evaluate based on some set site locations, with scenarios to establish best value for each region. However, the final tool is planned to allow work to occur at any location.

The current plan is to invoke Canada's Travel directive issued by the Joint National Committee (link is available below) to directly reimburse vendors for kilometers, accommodations, meals, and fuel at cost.

Crew time during transit to and from work sites would be charged at an hourly rate, per crew member.

Canada believes that there are activities that occur before and after a task that needs to be accounted for in the value beyond travel costs and labour.

Canada desires to have a flat rate for mobilization and demobilization for activities to prepare for a job such as loading of vehicles/trailers, and for demobilizing from a job such as unloading and cleaning of equipment. .

<https://www.njc-cnm.gc.ca/directive/d10/en>

Appendix B and C specifically apply to rates and allowances.

3. Potential Work Scope and Constraints

One or more procurement tools, for the provision of diving services and associated work may be entered into with a single organization or multiple organizations as a result of a potential future solicitation or potential future solicitations.

4. Legislation, Trade Agreements, and Government Policies

The following list is indicative of some of the legislation, trade agreements, and government policies that could impact any follow-on solicitations for diving services:

- a) Trade agreements: including the Canada Free Trade Agreement (CFTA), World Trade Organization – Agreement on Government Procurement (WTO-AGP), Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP);
- b) Defence Production Act;
- c) Industrial and Technological Benefits (ITBs);
- d) Controlled Goods Program (CGP);
- e) Federal Contractors Program for Employment Equity (FCP-EE);
- f) Comprehensive Land Claim Agreements (CLCAs).

5. Schedule

In providing responses, the following schedule should be utilized as a baseline:

- a) This RFI: February 2021
- b) Potential Solicitation(s): September 2021
- c) Potential Issuance of Procurement Tools: December 2021

6. Important Notes to Respondents

6.1 Submitting the Response

Interested procurement tool users and service providers are requested to fill out the downloadable form named “EZ187-212217 Diving Services Questionnaire.pdf” and e-mail the form to the PSPC Contracting Authority identified in Section 8 below. Canada requests that responses be provided by e-mail (no more than 5MB).

6.2 Treatment of the Response

Responses will not be formally evaluated. However, Canada may use the information in planning a potential solicitation for the work described herein. Canada will review all responses received by the RFI closing date. Canada may, at its discretion, review responses received after the RFI closing date.

A review team composed of representatives of the Government of Canada will review the responses. Canada reserves the right to hire any independent consultant, or use any Government resource which it deems necessary to review any response. Not all members of the review team will necessarily review all responses.

Canada may, at its discretion, contact any Respondent to follow up with additional questions or for clarification of any aspect of a response. Canada may also publish further RFIs related to this initiative.

6.4 Other Important Notes

Changes to this RFI may occur and will be advertised on the BuyAndSell.gc.ca website. Canada asks interested entities to visit BuyAndSell.gc.ca regularly to check for changes, if any.

This RFI is neither a call for tender nor a Request for Proposal (RFP). No agreement, procurement tool or contract will be entered into as a result of this RFI.

The issuance of this RFI is not to be considered in any way a commitment by the Government of Canada, nor as authority to potential respondents to undertake any work that could be charged to Canada. This RFI is not to be considered as a commitment to issue a subsequent solicitation or establish procurement tools for the work described herein.

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

Respondents are asked to identify if their response, or any part of their response, is subject to the Controlled Goods Regulations.

Participation in this RFI is encouraged, but is not mandatory. There will be no short-listing of potential suppliers for the purposes of undertaking any future work as a result of this RFI. Similarly, participation in this RFI is not a condition or prerequisite for the participation in any potential subsequent solicitation.

Respondents will not be reimbursed for any cost incurred by participating in this RFI.

7. Closing date for the RFI

Responses to this RFI are to be submitted to the PWGSC Contracting Authority identified above, on or before April 16, 2021 at 2:00pm (Pacific Standard Time).

8. PSPC Contracting Authority

Eric Zwarich

Public Works and Government Services Canada

Acquisitions Program

Pacific Region – Marine Acquisitions

Telephone: 250-661-2347

E-mail: Eric.Zwarich@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca