

**BRITISH COLUMBIA DIVING SERVICES**  
**EZ187-212217 - Request for Information (RFI)**  
**Industry Questionnaire**

Canada is seeking information from industry in order to develop a comprehensive tool that works for both industry and Government of Canada entities. Interested procurement tool users and service providers are requested to respond to the questions below as part of the Request for Information (RFI).

**SERVICE CATEGORIES:**

**A. Tidal Water Access and Non-Tidal Water Access/Shore Access**

Canada intends to divide the work into two (2) major categories based on mobilization requirements.

The first is Tidal Water Access which Canada believes requires a floating platform to conduct work such as a boat, barge, or vessel, as the work is needed to occur within tidal waters in remote areas where immediate shore access is not available.

The second is Non-Tidal Water Access/Shore Access. Non-Tidal Water access uses a floating platform to conduct work such as a boat, barge, or vessel on lakes and rivers or other non-tidal waters; and Shore Based is where diving is conducted near shore, dock or wharf where support is provided ashore.

#	QUESTIONS
---	-----------

1. Do you agree with the division of work based on the above? Yes  No

2. If you answered "No" to question 1, provide a brief reason.

3. Do you agree with Non-Tidal water work being grouped in with Shore Based access work? Yes  No

4. If you answered "No" to question 3, provide a brief reason.

5. Do you have any comments not applicable to the above questions regarding the Major Category Division of work? Yes  No

Enter any comments below:

## B. Zones/Regional Division of Province

Canada intends to create zones for each major category (Tidal or Non-Tidal/Shore) and within the RFI document Canada has indicated six (6) zones for Tidal Water Work, and nine (9) zones for Non-Tidal Water or Shore Based work.

**Division of Coasts for Tidal Water Work:** Canada has provided nautical points of reference to indicate the division of British Columbia's coastal waters into six (6) zones.

6. Were you able to clearly identify the zones based on the provided nautical references? Yes  No

7. If you answered "No" to question 6, indicate which zone or references were unclear:

8. If you answered "No" to question 6, can you provide an alternative definition or points of reference to identify the zones:

## C. Pre-Qualified Service Providers by Regions

Canada intends to qualify one or more service provider(s) for each region based on a yet to be determined evaluation, where providers are ranked on a "right of first refusal" basis.

9. Do you feel this Tidal Water division of the region is broken down sufficiently to meet this intent? Yes  No

10. Would you recommend more divisions, or less? More  Less

## D. Division of Non-Tidal Water Work and Shore Based Work

Canada has provided postal codes as references to indicate the division of British Columbia into nine (9) regions. This is based on the location of the work to take place, where the first three digits of a postal code can be used in Google maps to highlight the area subject to that postal code. This is intended to allow for remote locations without a mailing address to also be identified as being applicable to a specific division.

Canada asks participants to pick a location they are aware of, that may not have an obvious postal code and attempt to determine what zone is applicable by using a web based application such as Google Maps and the RFI document divisions.

11. Where you able to determine the applicable region based on the postal code and region description in the RFI document and the web based application? Yes  No

Indicate the location you chose:

12. Would you recommend a different number of regions than the nine (9) indicated in the RFI? Yes  No

13. If you answered "Yes" to question 12, provide a summary of your recommendation(s): *(If more space is required feel free to attach an additional document.)*

### E. Work Definition Breakdown

Canada intends to categorize the type of work such that vendors can not only qualify under different divisions and regions, but also qualify under certain work items based on individual capabilities. The following questions request feedback on how the divisions have been defined in the RFI document.

At this time, Canada intends to get a \$/hour per employee provided for General Diving Services, and then intends to have premium \$/hour per person rates to conduct more specific/complex tasks.

14. Canada has indicated eight (8) major categories for types of work which vendors would be requested to provide fixed rates if they can provide that service. Are these Categories sufficient for establishing fixed cost rates for all types of work that would be conducted by diving service providers (exempting hull cleaning, and large construction contracts)? Yes  No

15. If you answered "No" to question 14, would you please provide a suggestion for division of work, or additional categories for Canada to consider?

16. Is the plan to add a premium to the General Diving Service (Type 1) for tasks 2-8 be an acceptable method to determine the rate per hour for each crew member needed for a task? Yes  No

Canada believes that the amount of time in-water to complete work has an effect on crew and support requirements.

17. Canada has divided work into different groups for work based on short term in-water work less than or equal to four hours, versus long term in-water of work greater than four hours. Does the amount of time required for in-water work affect what the hourly charge-out rate will be for that work? Yes  No

18. If you answered "Yes" to question 17, is four hours acceptable as that threshold between charge-out rates? Yes  No

19. If you answered "No" to question 17, what threshold of time in water do you recommend for establishing different charge-out rates?

Time:

Canada has indicated in the RFI document under the task type of "Detailed Inspections" and "Underwater Repairs" the use of different tools or equipment. At this time they are listed as:

- Video Recording Device – No Audio
- Video and Audio Recording Device
- Ultrasonic Thickness Measurements – Metal
- Ultrasonic Condition Measurement Tool – Wood
- Pressure Cleaning
- Propeller Polishing

20. Canada intends to have the use of such equipment be included in the rate for that type of work. Is this something that industry can account for in a flat rate premium for that type of work? Yes  No

21. If the answer to question 20 is "no" would you be able to provide a fixed hourly rate for each tool in advance (as part of the basis of payment in the standing offer) and indicate which tools you offer? Below, please enter any additional tooling you believe should be considered. Yes  No

Canada has indicated some additional conditions:

- Vessel Usage – Flat daily rate for use of vessel to conduct work
- Emergency Call -ups – 72 hours notice or less
- Emergency Call-ups – 24 to 72 hours notice
- Emergency Call-ups – less than 24 hours notice
- Multiple Days of service required – 2-7 days on site consecutively
- Multiple Days of service required – greater than seven (7) consecutive days on-site
- Security Requirement – Designated Organization Security (DOS) for Companies and Reliability Status for Employees
- Security Requirement – Facility Security Clearance (FSC) for companies and Secret Clearance for employees

22. Does work in confined waters or on sunken (partially or fully) vessels warrant a specific charge-out rate? Yes  No

23. Would the amount of notice affect the charge-out rates? Yes  No

24. Can services be provided with less than 24 hours notice? Yes  No

25. Canada has created three (3) levels considered as "emergency", do you agree with this division? Yes  No

If answered "No" to question 25, provide a comment on what you recommend for the definition or division of "Emergency" notification:

**Canada believes that rates may change if a job is of a much longer term rather than a single day or two, as such Canada is considering including different charge-out rates for work that is expected to take place for two (2) to seven (7) consecutive days at one job site (one mobilization/one demobilization).**

26. Do you agree that a different charge-out rate is applicable when work is required to take place for two (2) or more days? Yes  No

27. If answered "Yes" to question 26, do you agree that a different charge-out rate is needed when work is longer than seven (7) consecutive days? Yes  No

**Canada will often require the company to have a Designated Organization Screening (DOS) which allows them to provide security screening for their personnel at the Reliability Status level in accordance with National Security and Defence requirements (<https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/esc-src/index-eng.html>).**

**Canada would like to know if Industry already meets these requirements.**

28. Does your organization have a DOS and employees security screened to the Reliability Status at this time? Yes  No

29. Does your organization have a Facility Security Clearance (FSC) and employees security cleared to the Secret level at this time? Yes  No

30. If your organization does not currently have a clearance, would you be willing to obtain a DOS in advance of a process? Yes  No

31. If your organization does not currently have clearance, would you be willing to obtain a FSC in advance of a process? Yes  No

**When Canada requires work to be done by someone with security clearance, Canada usually requires the organization to already have either a DOS or an FSC, however, personnel security screening (individuals) can be completed after a contract is awarded, but before work can start.**

32. Does having personnel already screened and available to conduct work where security requirements are necessary come with a premium cost for that particular work? Yes  No

## F. Mobilization Cost

Canada needs to take into account the mobilization costs for conducting work that may be called up.

33. Based on how regions are divided, would you be willing to provide a flat mobilization/demobilization fee for each category and region you wish to qualify for? Yes  No

34. If answer is "No" to question 33, provide an alternative way of handling mobilization costs?

## G. Travel Cost

For longer term work, or where work requires travel, accommodations, meals, or incidental costs to occur, where not included in mobilization rates, Canada will require these costs to be reimbursed in accordance with the National Joint Council Travel Directives (<https://www.njc-cnm.gc.ca/directive/d10/en>).

35. Based on this directive, would you be willing to undertake longer term work where the travel costs for crew is limited to the requirements of this directive? Yes  No

## H. Use of a Form to Define Work

Canada intends for this tool to allow its departments to fill out a standard form for indentifying the work requirement, and have the department send this document to the first ranked vendor for the category, region, and job type required using a right of first refusal process.

36. If Canada were to identify the work broken down as per the RFI, would you as the vendor be able to provide costing under pre-defined fixed cost rates as described above? Yes  No

**We thank you for your participation. If you have any other comments or points to raise please add below:**

---

---

*Canada may want to follow-up with vendors who provide comments outside the selectable answers. If you are willing to be contacted please provide the following information:*

**Company or Organization:**

---

**Contact Name:**

---

**Email:**

---

**Phone Number:**

---