ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE (ACAN)

Title: SimSmoke Model in Canada to evaluate impact of the Tobacco and Vaping Products Act and the emergence of novel products

Solicitation Number: 1000230021

1. The Purpose and Explanation of an ACAN

An Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN) allows Health Canada to post a notice for no less than fifteen (15) calendar days, indicating to the supplier community that a goods, services or construction contract will be awarded to a pre-identified contractor. If no other supplier submits, on or before the closing date, a Statement of Capabilities that meets the minimum requirements identified in the ACAN, the Contracting Authority may then proceed to award a contract to the pre-identified contractor.

2. Rights of Suppliers

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the services or goods described in this ACAN may submit a Statement of Capabilities demonstrating how they meet the advertised requirement. This Statement of Capabilities must be provided via e-mail only to the contact person identified in Section 12 of the Notice on or before the closing date and time of the Notice. If the Bidder can clearly demonstrate they possess the required capabilities, the requirement will be opened to electronic or traditional bidding processes.

3. Proposed Contractor

Georgetown University Medical Center
3300 Whitehaven Street, NW
Milton Harris Buidling, Suite 4100
Washingon, DC, 20007-2401

4. Definition of Requirements or Expected Results

The purpose of this contract is to update the SimSmoke model for Canada in order to assess the impact of recent tobacco control policies and novel vaping products on smoking behaviour and the associated health outcomes. The model will help characterize the effects of tobacco policies by estimating smoking-related population statistics over the period 1999-2018 and by projecting smoking rates and population health impacts in the future. The results of this analysis will be used to inform decision making within the program, and will help inform progress evaluations as the Government moves toward its objective of 5% tobacco use by 2035.

This contract has two main objectives and one optional. The first is to update the model with new data to assess the impact of recent policies on tobacco and vaping products on smoking behaviour, as well as the associated health outcomes by applying the SimSmoke model to Canada. The second is to revise the model to incoproate the arrival of vaping products on the market and their impact on smoking behaviour. A potential third option is to incoporate the legalization of recreational cannabis into the model as well (depending on the availability of data and existing research). The model will quantify estimates of the

impacts of tobacco policies on smoking-related population statistics over the period 1999-2018 and project smoking rates over future years. The results of this analysis will be used to inform decision-making within the program, and evaluations on progress towards the Government publicly stated objective of reaching 5% tobacco use by 2035.

The SimSmoke model is developed in three parts:

1) a dynamic population model which evolves through births and deaths;

2) a smoking module which distinguishes smokers, never smokers, and 6 categories of former smokers as well as death rates of smokers and former smokers relative to never smokers; and

3) individual policy modules which estimate the effects of different policies on smoking rates.

Policy modules can be evaluated independently or in combination, and include tobacco taxes and price increases, indoor air laws, mass media and educational campaigns, youth access laws, and cessation strategies.

One of the main strengths of SimSmoke is its double purpose, such that it is able to evaluate past trends in smoking and the role that various tobacco policies may have played, while also being able to forecast the future smoking prevalence and smoking-attributable mortality. As a result of SimSmoke's ability to simultaneously model the effects of various tobacco control policies on both current and future smoking rates, and the subsequent impact on smoking-attributable mortality, several member countries of the WHO-FCTC have chosen to use this model to inform strategic policy development in setting long-term tobacco control objectives. In order to be consistent with other WHO-FCTC members as well as stakeholders within Canada, application of SimSmoke will ensure comparable results are used to inform tobacco strategy policy development at the federal level.

5. Minimum Requirements

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a Statement of Capabilities that it meets the following minimum requirements:

a) **Project Lead knowledge and experience in the tobacco control environment**
The resource proposed as the Project Lead must demonstrate extensive knowledge and experience in the field of tobacco control listing eight (8) relevant publications, for which the project lead is listed as an author, within the last ten (10) years.

To be considered relevant, each publication must be on the subject of tobacco control and include an analysis of the effect of tobacco control policies on smoking rates and smoking attributable mortality at the national or sub-national (province or state) level

b) **Project Lead experience in applying simulation modelling, specifically the SimSmoke model, to tobacco control policies in assessing their long-term impact on smoking rates and smoking-attributable mortality**

The resource proposed as the Project Lead must have completed a minimum of five (5) projects in the last ten (10) years, including a minimum of three (3) completed for a member country of the

World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO-FCTC), in which they led projects that applied SimSmoke simulation modelling to estimate the long-term effects of tobacco control policies on future smoking rates and smoking-attributable mortality.

6. Reason for Non-Competitive Award

6d) Only one person or firm is capable of performing the contract

7. Applicable trade Agreements and Justification for Limited Tendering or the Procurement Strategy for Aboriginal Business

- World Trade Organization–Agreement on Government Procurement (WTO-GPA)
- Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)
- Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)
- Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA)
- Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA)
- Canada–Ukraine Free Trade Agreement
- Canada-Chile FTA
- Canada-Colombia FTA
- Canada–Honduras FTA
- Canada-Panama FTA
- Canada-Korea FTA

8. Ownership of Intellectual Property

Contractor to Own Intellectual Property Rights in Foreground Information

9. Period of the Proposed Contract

The contract period shall be from date of contract award until July 31, 2022 with one (1) one-year option period.

10. Estimated Value of the Proposed Contract

The total estimated value of the proposed contract should not exceed $515,259.75, including option periods and all applicable taxes.

11. Closing Date and Time

The Closing Date and Time for accepting Statements of Capabilities is May 17, 2021

12. Contact Person

All enquiries must be addressed by e-mail to:

Name: Sami Nouh
E-Mail: sami.nouh@canada.ca