



**RETURN BIDS TO:**

**RETOURNER LES SOUMISSIONS À:**

Bid Receiving - PWGSC / Réception des  
soumissions - TPSGC

11 Laurier St./ 11, rue Laurier

Place du Portage, Phase III

Core 0B2 / Noyau 0B2

Gatineau, Québec K1A 0S5

Bid Fax: (819) 997-9776

**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**

Clothing and Textiles Division / Division des vêtements et  
des textiles

L'Esplanade Laurier,

East Tower 7th Floor

Tour est 7<sup>e</sup> étage

140 O'Connor, rue O'Connor,

Ottawa

Ontario

K1A 0R5

<b>Title - Sujet</b> (RFI) - Textile Industries	
<b>Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation</b> E60PR-21RECY/A	<b>Date</b> 2021-06-11
<b>Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client</b> E60PR-21RECY	<b>GETS Ref. No. - N° de réf. de SEAG</b> PW-\$\$\$PR-769-80113
<b>File No. - N° de dossier</b> pr769.E60PR-21RECY	<b>CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME</b>
<b>Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin</b> <b>at - à 02:00 PM</b> Eastern Daylight Saving Time EDT <b>on - le 2021-08-13</b> Heure Avancée de l'Est HAE	
<b>F.O.B. - F.A.B.</b> <b>Plant-Usine:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Destination:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other-Autre:</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à:</b> Lamothe, Nathalie	<b>Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur</b> pr769
<b>Telephone No. - N° de téléphone</b> (343) 550-1649 ( )	<b>FAX No. - N° de FAX</b> ( ) -
<b>Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction:</b> <b>Destination - des biens, services et construction:</b>  Specified Herein Précisé dans les présentes	

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

<b>Delivery Required - Livraison exigée</b> See Herein – Voir ci-inclus	<b>Delivery Offered - Livraison proposée</b>
<b>Vendor/Firm Name and Address</b> <b>Raison sociale et adresse du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur</b>    <b>Telephone No. - N° de téléphone</b> <b>Facsimile No. - N° de télécopieur</b>	
<b>Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of Vendor/Firm</b> <b>(type or print)</b> <b>Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du fournisseur/</b> <b>de l'entrepreneur (taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie)</b>   <b>Signature</b>   <b>Date</b>	

## REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) – TEXTILE INDUSTRIES - ON THE LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT OF TEXTILES

### 1. PURPOSE

In alignment with the Government of Canada's commitment to advance a circular economy, Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is seeking information from the textile industry in relation to the market potential to reduce end of life textile waste. PSPC is gathering knowledge to better understand market readiness from suppliers, industry associations, and other stakeholders in order to inform procurement, divestment and other opportunities and partnerships that reduce the environmental impact of textiles and textiles waste.

The objectives of this RFI are to:

- a. Increase awareness and foster success by engaging suppliers/vendors and stakeholders in decision-making.
- b. Questions posed to industry can be found in [Annex A](#) of this RFI.

### 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Government of Canada procures approximately 70,000 uniforms for departments and agencies annually.

In an effort to reduce the environmental impact of textiles, PSPC is seeking to gather market information on sustainable textiles including production, use and end of life management.

Definitions:

**Sustainable Textiles** are products that are produced and consumed in an environmentally, socially and economically sustainable way.

**End of Life Management** is the proper collection and management of textiles at end-of-life.

**Shredding** is a disposal process that breaks textiles down into smaller parts to ensure safe destruction and recycling.

**Recycling** is the reintegration of used textiles back into other textiles or into other products.

**Reuse of materials** involves extended use of a product or use of a product for other purposes.

### IMPORTANT NOTES TO RESPONDENTS

Respondents may submit their responses to the PSPC Authority identified below via email.  
To be determined.

Public Works and Government Services Canada  
Acquisitions Branch  
Commercial and Consumer Products Directorate (CCPD)  
Clothing & Textiles Division  
E-mail address: [nathalie.lamothe@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:nathalie.lamothe@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca) Telephone: 343-550-1649

A point of contact for the Respondent should be included in the package.

#### **4. TREATMENT OF RESPONSES**

##### **a. Use of Responses:**

- I. Responses received may result in decisions related to the purchasing, treatment and divestment of textiles at end of life.
- II. Canada reserves the right to share information collected confidentially with federal and stakeholder associations including provincial recycling organisations to help improve the recycling of textiles in Canada.

##### **b. Confidentiality:**

- I. Respondents should mark any portions of their response that is considered proprietary and confidential. Respondents must show why the information is confidential. Canada will treat the information as confidential, to the extent permitted by the *Access to Information Act*, if Canada agrees with the confidential nature of the information.

##### **c. Follow-up Activity:**

- I. Canada may, in its discretion, contact any respondents to follow up with additional questions or for clarification of any aspect of a response.

#### **5. OFFICIAL LANGUAGES**

Responses to this RFI may be in either of the official languages of Canada.

#### **6. ENQUIRIES**

All enquiries and communications with Canada regarding this RFI must be directed to the PSPC Authority on or before the closing date of the RFI, by email at:

[nathalie.lamothe@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:nathalie.lamothe@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)

#### **7. ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS**

There are no scheduled industry engagement activities associated with this RFI. However, individual or group sessions may be scheduled virtually if interested respondents wish to meet and discuss with government or stakeholder representatives involved with this RFI.

The Government of Canada will not reimburse respondents for expenses incurred responding, or attending meetings resulting from this RFI.

#### **8. CLOSING DATE**

Responses to this RFI are to be submitted to the PSPC Authority identified above, no later than 60 days from the date of publication of the request for information.

## **ANNEX A**

### **PART 1 – COMPANY PROFILE**

Name of company:

Address of company:

Volume and type of business with Canada:

### **QUESTIONS**

In order to ensure that we consider all important aspects to sustainable textiles within a circular economy we are seeking clarification from all parties including stakeholders, suppliers, industry associations and they are being asked to respond to the following questions which are organized under the 5 Circular Economy Business models. Please describe any special environmental attributes of your textiles.

#### **Circular supplies**

1. What textiles include post consumed (recycled) materials?
2. Are your textiles made of natural fibers?
3. What fibers are your textiles currently made of?
4. If organizations use recycled materials, does this pose problems with quality and are there any special input requirements?
5. Are buttons/zippers or any other element reintegrated into the market as part of the production process?
6. Some Government of Canada uniforms are made from a mix of textiles such as but not limited to: plastic, velcro, polyester, cotton, nylon, wool and leather. Does this pose a problem for industry and if so, how?
7. Are you able to provide recycling services for your products only or for any product?
8. Can different production methods could improve the recycling ability of the textiles including finishes and chemical processes, dyestuffs and fiber content?

#### **Resource Recovery**

1. What do you do with textile offcuts? Are they reused or resold? If so, how are they reused and what markets are they sold to?
2. What happens with returned or unsold textile products, like uniforms? Are they destroyed? If so, how are they destroyed? Are they sold to reuse markets? What markets?
3. Do you have a take back options to recover textiles that you have manufactured/sold?
4. Do you pay to recover used textiles that you have manufactured or sold?
5. Can you recover more than just textiles for reuse (for example, zippers, buttons)?
6. Are organizations able to ensure a secure chain of custody with textiles both delivery and recycling to avoid these misappropriated?

#### **Product Life Extension**

1. Do you have warranties?
2. Do you have repair services?
3. What textiles have the best durability qualities?
4. Can you remove logos or patches on uniforms to extend the life of the product in the case of reselling textiles back to industry?
5. Is there opportunity or interest related to buying back end of life textiles? If so, in what way? Does this also apply to mixed textiles?

**Product as a Service**

1. Do you know of, or partner with, any textile rental providers. If so, who?
2. Do any rental services for uniforms that include recycling or safe destruction at end of life?
3. What kind of security is provided to ensure that Government of Canada uniforms get safely to shredding and recycling facilities?
4. How can organizations continue to offer Canada competitive pricing if circular procurement of their products is implemented?

**Shredding:**

1. At what capacity does the Canadian market currently shred textiles, if at all?
2. Is there marketability in shredded textiles?
3. Are shredded textiles currently recycled, reused and/or repurposed?
4. What textile types are currently shredded and recycled?
5. For what purpose are shredded fibers typically used? Where are they sent?
6. Can these same organisations shred the materiel to ensure that Government of Canada uniforms are no longer recognizable as uniforms?
7. Can organizations shred Government of Canada uniforms for eventual purchase and repurposing?
8. Is shredding in fact the only feasible method for recycling/repurposing Government of Canada uniforms or could there be other options?
9. Can organizations provide certificates of destruction related to textiles lots received?
10. In the case of repurposing shredded material, can organizations provide proof of final disposition of materials (where do materials end up and how they will be reused)?
11. Is industry in a position to provide reports related to waste diversion, resource recovery, greenhouse gas reduction, water consumption, chemical avoidance, and reuse success to the Government of Canada?

Public Services and Procurement Canada would like to thank all those who provide information to help shape the future of textile life cycle management.