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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

Invitation to Qualify (ITQ)

Invitation à se qualifier (ISQ)

Vendor/Firm Name and Address

Raison sociale et adresse du

fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur

Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution

Armoured Vehicles Support/Soutien des véhicules blindés

11 Laurier St./11, rue Laurier

Place du Portage Phase III 6C1

Gatineau

Québec

K1A 0S5

Title - Sujet LOI - NGFV LOI - Next Generation Fighting Vehicle	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation W6399-19KH53/E	Date 2022-04-28
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client W6399-19KH53	GETS Ref. No. - N° de réf. de SEAG PW-\$\$BL-299-28658
File No. - N° de dossier 299bl.W6399-19KH53	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM Eastern Daylight Saving Time EDT on - le 2022-06-17 Heure Avancée de l'Est HAE	
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: Parent, Derek	Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur 299bl
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (819) 790-8315 ()	FAX No. - N° de FAX () -
Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction: N/A	

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

Delivery Required - Livraison exigée	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

Invitation to Qualify (ITQ) for the Next Generation Fighting Vehicle Project (NGFV) Procurement Process

The Contracting Authority, who is identified in the previous page, is Canada's representative for all questions and comments about this document.

Email Address for submitting your questions

PAVCNG.APNGFV@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca

Invitation to Qualify for the Next Generation Fighting Vehicle Project Procurement Process

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	GENERAL INFORMATION.....	3
1.1	DEFINITIONS	3
1.2	INTRODUCTION	4
1.3	QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	5
1.4	OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT AND THE COMPETITION SCOPE	6
1.5	OVERVIEW OF ANTICIPATED PROCUREMENT PROCESS	7
1.6	CONSULTANTS.....	8
1.7	FAIRNESS MONITOR.....	8
1.8	CANADA POST CORPORATION'S CONNECT SERVICE.....	9
2.0	INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESPONDENT TEAMS.....	9
2.1	STANDARD INSTRUCTIONS, CLAUSES AND CONDITIONS	9
2.2	SUBMISSION OF RESPONSES.....	10
2.3	QUALIFIED SUPPLIER AND BIDDER.....	11
2.4	QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS	11
2.5	PROCUREMENT DOCUMENTS PUBLICATION.....	12
2.6	RIGHTS OF CANADA.....	12
2.7	SECURITY REQUIREMENTS	13
3.0	PREPARING AND SUBMITTING A RESPONSE.....	13
3.1	LANGUAGE FOR FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS	13
3.2	CONTENT OF RESPONSE	13
3.3	RESPONSE PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS	14
4.0	PROCESS FOR EVALUATING RESPONSES.....	14
4.1	EVALUATION OF RESPONSES.....	14
4.2	CONDUCT OF THE EVALUATION	14
4.3	BASIS OF QUALIFICATION.....	15
4.4	WITHDRAWALS AND ADDITIONS OF THE ENTITIES THAT FORM THE QUALIFIED SUPPLIER FOLLOWING ITQ PHASE.....	15
	ANNEX A – QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	17
	Next Generation Fighting Vehicle – Performance Requirements.....	17
	ANNEX B – ESTIMATED TIMELINES	18
	ANNEX C – RESPONSE SUBMISSION FORMS	19

1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

Canada's Defense policy, Strong, Secure, Engaged (SSE), Initiative 60, states the Government's commitment to "enhance next generation Special Operations Forces integrated soldier system equipment, land mobility, and maritime mobility platforms and fighting vehicle platforms". The NGFV project will deliver the fighting vehicle platform component of Initiative 60 to CANSOFCOM and will replace its existing fleet of High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWV). The NGFV project will deliver a fleet of vehicles that will provide high levels of survivability, mobility, lethality, transportability, connectivity, reliability, sustainability and interoperability with CANSOFCOM's allies.

Industry engagement began in July 2019 with the publication of Solicitation No. W6399-19KH53/A on Buyandsell.gc.ca. Under this engagement an Industry Vehicle Demonstration was held in the fall of 2019 and the outcome was shared under Solicitation No. W6399-19KH53/B in May 2020. Solicitation No. W6399-19KH53/C was published in Nov 2020 in order to provide updates to Industry regarding the NGFV Project Schedule. Solicitation No. W6399-19KH53/D was published in July 2021 seeking additional industry feedback on the NGFV project. One-on-one sessions were also held to develop a shared understanding with industry about the project.

1.1 DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply for the purpose of this procurement:

1.1.1 "Entity"¹ is defined here as a body corporate, a partnership, a trust, a joint venture² or an unincorporated association or organization.

1.1.2 "Fighting Vehicle" is a vehicle for which the NATO Supply Classification Group (NSCG) code is 2320: Trucks and Truck Tractors, Wheeled or 2355: Combat, Assault, and Tactical Vehicles, Wheeled. Any "Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle" with a NATO Stock Number (NSN) in the form of 2320-xx-xxx-xxxx or 2355-xx-xxx-xxxx is considered a fighting vehicle.

1.1.3 "Major Change" as per SAE 649-1 A, section 3.3.1.2³

1.1.4 "Minor Change" as per SAE 649-1 A, section 3.3.1.2⁴

1.1.5 "Manufacturer" means an original equipment manufacturer (OEM) of Fighting Vehicles who has designed and built a Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle that's currently In Service.

1.1.6 "Qualified Supplier" is a Respondent Team that will successfully be evaluated by Canada as meeting all requirements of the ITQ. Qualified Suppliers will be invited to participate in the subsequent phases of the procurement process.

1.1.7 "Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle" is a Fighting Vehicle specifically designed for combat operations in complex terrain and moving a minimum of four (4) personnel equipped with full combat personal protective equipment, personal weapons and combat supplies. This variant must be equipped with either a Remote Weapon Station (RWS) or a Crewed Turret.

¹ Entity - <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/c-44/page-1.html>

² See Standard Instructions - Goods or Services - Competitive Requirements 2003 Section 17(2019-03-04) Joint Venture <https://buyandsell.gc.ca/policy-and-guidelines/standard-acquisition-clauses-and-conditions-manual/1/2003/24>.

³ Reference to SAE EIA-649 standard. - About 649 (eia-649.com)

⁴ Reference to SAE EIA-649 standard. About 649 (eia-649.com)

1.1.8 “Respondent Team” is an Entity(ies) which includes at a minimum, a Manufacturer submitting a response to this Invitation to Qualify (ITQ) to become a “Qualified Supplier” and to participate in any subsequent phases of the phased procurement process. A Respondent Team may be comprised of the Manufacturer only.

1.1.9 “Subcontractor” means a first-tier contractor to a Qualified Supplier. It does not include a Qualified Supplier Entity.

1.1.10 “Vehicle Baseline Configuration” is comprised of:

- 1.1.10.1 Drivetrain which includes: Engine, transmission, transfer cases, axles (Hub to Hub), driveshaft (Flange to flange);
- 1.1.10.2 Suspensions - Front and Rear independently;
- 1.1.10.3 Braking system;
- 1.1.10.4 Steering system;
- 1.1.10.5 Wheel assembly;
- 1.1.10.6 Frame, Chassis and Hull;
- 1.1.10.7 Seating system associated with the Chassis/Hull; and
- 1.1.10.8 Vehicle electronic and base architecture.

1.1.11 “In Service” is a Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle, introduced into service, that is under the care, custody or control of a NATO and/or Five Eyes military and is in or available for use.

1.1.12 “Basic Issue Items (BII)” Basic issued Items are defined as the equipment associated with the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle in order to ensure the proper operation or maintenance of the vehicle comprised of but not limited to:

- 1.1.12.1 Jack with associated mount;
- 1.1.12.2 Lug wrench;
- 1.1.12.3 Safety chains;
- 1.1.12.4 Wheel blocks;
- 1.1.12.5 Spare tire with run flat inserts and associated mount;
- 1.1.12.6 Run flat inserts;
- 1.1.12.7 Trailer air lines;
- 1.1.12.8 Trailer umbilical cable;
- 1.1.12.9 Winch;
- 1.1.12.10 Winch handle; and
- 1.1.12.11 Fire extinguisher with associated mount.

1.1.13 “Curb Weight” Weight of the empty Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle Baseline Configuration with:

- 1.1.13.1 full complement of fuel, fluids, lubricants and coolant;
- 1.1.13.2 all the Basic Issued Items (BII); and
- 1.1.13.3 the vehicle integral survivability.

1.2 INTRODUCTION

1.2.1 Overview of the Procurement Process

This ITQ is the first phase of a procurement process lead by Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC)⁵ for the NGFV Project. The purpose of this ITQ is to qualify Suppliers that have the ability to propose solutions for the NGFV Project to Canada. Interested Suppliers who can demonstrate they meet the

⁵ The legal name of the Department is "Department of Public Works and Government Services". "Public Services and Procurement Canada" and "PSPC" as well as "Public Works and Government Services Canada" and "PWGSC" are the common usage names.

requirements at article [1.3](#) are invited to respond to this ITQ. Canada will assess responses and qualify respondents in accordance with the terms and conditions of this ITQ. Only the Qualified Suppliers will be permitted to participate in the subsequent phases of the procurement process as further detailed in article [1.5](#).

1.2.2 Further Evaluation of Qualified Suppliers

Even though certain Respondent Teams may be qualified by Canada as a result of this ITQ, Canada reserves the right to re-evaluate any aspect of the qualification of any Qualified Supplier at any time during the procurement process and revoke their Qualified Supplier status if they no longer meet the requirements provided in this ITQ.

1.2.3 ITQ is not a Bid Solicitation

This ITQ process is not a solicitation of bids or tenders. No contract will be awarded as a result of the activities during the ITQ phase. Canada reserves the right to cancel any of the qualification requirements included as part of the project at any time during the ITQ phase. Given that the ITQ process may be partially or completely canceled by Canada, it may not result in any of the subsequent procurement process described in this document. Subject to article [4.4](#) herein, Qualified Suppliers may withdraw from the procurement process at any time.

1.2.4 Procurement Strategy

Currently, the procurement strategy is based on a competitive bid solicitation, open only to the Qualified Suppliers, resulting in the award of two contracts to the winning bidder: one contract for the acquisition of the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle and the other for in-service support. This strategy may be reassessed during the Review and Refine Requirements phase (see section [1.5.2](#)). Qualified Suppliers will be informed if Canada decides to change the procurement strategy.

1.3 QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

1.3.1 To qualify for this ITQ, the Respondent Team must:

1.3.1.1 Include, at a minimum, a Manufacturer of Fighting Vehicles that has successfully designed and built a Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle that's currently In Service. This qualification requirement is mandatory throughout the procurement process because it is the core capability acquired by Canada under this procurement. Therefore, Canada has determined that the Manufacturer as the Qualified Supplier or as an Entity of the Qualified Supplier is best able to mitigate risks related to the technical, costs and schedule requirements for the Project;

1.3.1.2 Propose a Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle with all the following characteristics:

1.3.1.2.1 It must currently be In Service by a NATO⁶ and/or Five Eyes military in the same Vehicle Baseline Configuration and with a Remote Weapon Station;

1.3.1.2.2 It must be a Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle designed and built by the same Manufacturer as the one proposed as part of the Respondent Team;

1.3.1.2.3 It must be a Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle for which the NATO Supply Classification Group code is 2320 or 2355; and

1.3.1.2.4 It must not exceed a vehicle Curb Weight of 8,500 kg.

^[2] NATO Member Country: A country that has signed the North Atlantic Treaty (https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/nato_countries.htm).

1.3.1.3 The Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle proposed by the Respondent Team for this ITQ must be the Qualified Supplier's proposed solution to Canada at the RFP phase.

1.3.2 To respond to this ITQ, the Respondent Team must be:

1.3.2.1 The Manufacturer of the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle proposed for this ITQ;

1.3.2.2 A proposed Joint Venture in which the Manufacturer of the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle proposed for this ITQ is a member; or

1.3.2.3 A party proposing to act as a potential prime contractor that agrees with one or more companies, one of which is the Manufacturer of the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle proposed in the ITQ, to have the company(ies) act as its Subcontractor(s) under the contracts with Canada for the provision of the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle; as well as its support.

1.3.3 There are no rated requirements nor is any price data required under this ITQ.

1.3.4 Canada will determine if the Respondent Team meet the requirements outlined in this ITQ by reviewing and evaluating the Proofs of Compliance outlined at [Annex A](#) and the information provided at [Annex C](#).

1.3.5 In case the information is not provided with the ITQ responses, Canada will request that the missing information be provided within a short time period to be determined by Canada.

1.4 OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT AND THE COMPETITION SCOPE

1.4.1 Overview of Project

The NGFV project is a capability replacement of the existing fleet of the Canadian Special Operations Forces Command (CANSOFCOM) High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWV) that will deliver a fleet of vehicles providing high levels of survivability, mobility, lethality, transportability, connectivity, reliability, sustainability and interoperability with CANSOFCOM's allies. The following provide further details about the Project.

1.4.1.1 The NGFV fleet is expected to be between 55-75 vehicles, some equipped with an integrated Remote Weapons Station (RWS) or a crewed turret and include Command, Control, Computers, Communications, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR) integration.

1.4.1.2 With the initial acquisition of the NGFV fleet, Canada intends to procure an Integrated Logistic Support (ILS) package to operate and sustain the NGFV fleet for the first two (2) years of service. The ILS package could include but is not limited to initial cadre training, electronic technical publications, initial provisioning of spare parts and special tools and test equipment, as required. ILS requirements will be determined based on industry feedback and analysis by Government of Canada (GC) stakeholders.

1.4.1.3 The NGFV project will also establish an In-service Support (ISS) contract to support the NGFV for its service life. DND, PSPC and Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED) will collaboratively develop a Sustainment Business Case Analysis (SBCA). The purpose of the SBCA process is to improve how sustainment investment decisions are made and supported, and how outcomes are measured in the GC. The desired outcome of the SBCA process is a tailored and optimized sustainment solution which will maximize value to Canada through the optimization of the four sustainment principles described below:

- a. Performance – Defence equipment that is operationally ready and mission capable;
- b. Value for Money – The required outcomes are procured at a price commensurate with the market rate for comparable procurements;

- c. Flexibility – An adaptable and scalable support system that can be readily adjusted to changes in operational requirements and/or operating budgets; and
- d. Economic Benefits – Leverage industrial benefits from defence procurements to create jobs for Canadians and economic growth in Canada.

1.4.1.4 Canada's Industrial and Technological Benefits (ITB) Policy, including the Value Proposition (VP) will apply to the Project. The objectives of the ITB Policy and the VP are to support the long-term sustainability and growth of Canada's defence sectors, including small and medium-sized businesses in all regions of Canada to enhance innovation through research and development in Canada, to support skills development and training, and to increase the export potential of Canadian based firms. To maximize the economic impact that can be leveraged through the VP, Canada will motivate the defence contractors to invest in [Key Industrial Capabilities](#) (KICs) of Armour, Defence Systems Integration, Ground Vehicle Solutions, Electro Optical/Infrared Systems and In-Service Support. Further information on the ITB Policy and Value Proposition can be found at <http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/086.nsf/eng/home..>

1.4.1.5 Canada will engage with Qualified Suppliers as Canada develops the requirements for the ITB Value Proposition

1.4.2 Competition Scope

The scope of the contract(s) resulting from any subsequent solicitation may include, but is not limited to:

- 1.4.2.1 vehicles and associated equipment;
- 1.4.2.2 Armour Protection Kits (APK);
- 1.4.2.3 RWS associated simulation training system;
- 1.4.2.4 related Integrated Logistic Support (ILS);
- 1.4.2.5 Technical Investigation and Engineering Support (TIES); and
- 1.4.2.6 a comprehensive sustainment program.

1.4.3 National Security Exception

The National Security Exception provided for in the trade agreements has been invoked for the NGFV Project for all purposes.

1.4.4 Controlled Goods Program

This procurement may be subject to the Controlled Goods Program, buyandsell.gc.ca/policy-and-guidelines/standard-acquisition-clauses-and-conditions-manual/5/A/A9130T/10. The final status of the procurement will be confirmed in any subsequent solicitation.

1.5 OVERVIEW OF ANTICIPATED PROCUREMENT PROCESS

This ITQ is the first of a three-phase procurement process. Although the procurement process remains subject to change, Canada currently anticipates that the procurement process will be conducted in the following phases:

1.5.1 Phase I - ITQ Phase

The purpose of Phase I - ITQ is to qualify Respondent Team(s) that have the technical ability to propose solutions for a Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle. This ITQ will also be used to qualify Respondent Teams to participate in any subsequent phases of the procurement process.

1.5.2 Phase II - Review and Refine Requirements Phase

1.5.2.1 The Review and Refine Requirements (RRR) process with the Qualified Suppliers will follow the ITQ phase. The objective of the RRR phase is to obtain feedback from Qualified Suppliers on Canada's

preliminary requirements. It is intended to be a collaborative process and may involve interactions such as workshops, commercial-in-confidence meetings, and written questions and answers. Canada will consider the feedback provided by Qualified Suppliers when refining the requirements and preparing its procurement documents. Further details regarding the RRR phase will be provided to those Respondent Teams who qualify as Qualified Suppliers following the evaluation of the ITQ phase. This phase will involve the release of a draft RFP.

1.5.2.2 Engagement with Industry Stakeholders: In parallel to the activities related to the RRR phase of the procurement process between Canada and the Qualified Suppliers, Canada will engage, in a forum to be determined later, with industry stakeholders and other parties to gather and share information related to the NGFV Project. Parallel Engagement activities may include the release of high-level technical specifications and Value Proposition information to Industry Stakeholders and other parties. Once this process is defined, this information will be posted on buyandsell.gc.ca as an amendment to the ITQ.

1.5.3 Phase III - Request for Proposals Phase

1.5.3.1 Canada anticipates releasing an RFP to Qualified Suppliers who remain qualified at the time the RFP is released. The current intent is to evaluate bids based on capability, performance, cost (acquisition, sustainment, and operations), Industrial Technological Benefits, as well as project and contractual risks criteria.

1.5.3.2 Subject to article [1.3](#) and [4.4](#) herein, Qualified Suppliers retain maximum flexibility in establishing teaming arrangements, forming consortiums, entering into Joint Venture and/or License Agreements up until the closing of the Request for Proposal. Such arrangements do not need to be formalized to respond to the ITQ and will not be evaluated under this ITQ; however, Canada requests the Respondent Team provide an indication of the proposed arrangements in Annex C. The proposed arrangements will generally be left to the discretion of the Qualified Supplier and may include subcontracting as required.

1.5.3.3 Canada may consider utilizing a multiple phased RFP approach to conduct Phase III that would allow for the acquisition of a Surrogate Vehicle from each of the Qualified Suppliers early in the procurement process.

1.5.4 The estimated timeline for each phase of the anticipated procurement process is provided at Annex B.

1.6 CONSULTANTS

1.6.1 Canada may engage consultants in the future at its sole discretion, for the purposes of the NGFV Project.

1.6.2 Canada will share with consultants, on a need to know basis, information and documents provided to Canada, which may include those of Respondent Teams, as part of the procurement process.

1.6.3 The consultants will be under obligations pursuant to their contracts with Canada to maintain the confidentiality of all information received as a result of their participation in this procurement process.

1.7 FAIRNESS MONITOR

1.7.1 Canada has engaged SAMSON & ASSOCIÉS CPA/CONSULTATION INC. as a fairness monitor for this procurement. The fairness monitor will observe the procurement phases to determine whether Canada has adhered to the process described in all solicitation documents.

1.7.2 The fairness monitor is under obligations pursuant to its contract with Canada to maintain the confidentiality of all information received as a result of its participation in this procurement process.

1.8 CANADA POST CORPORATION'S CONNECT SERVICE

1.8.1 This ITQ allows Respondent Teams to use the Canada Post Corporation's (CPC) Connect service to transmit their response electronically. Respondent Teams must refer to Section 2 entitled "Instructions for Respondent Teams" of this ITQ, for further information.

2.0 INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESPONDENT TEAMS

2.1 STANDARD INSTRUCTIONS, CLAUSES AND CONDITIONS

The 2003 (2020-05-28) Standard Instructions – Goods or Services – Competitive Requirements, are incorporated by reference into and form part of the ITQ as though they were expressly set out here in full. If there is a conflict between the provisions of the 2003 Standard Instructions and this document, this document prevails. The 2003 Standard Instructions may be found at: <https://buyandsell.gc.ca/policy-and-guidelines/standard-acquisition-clauses-and-conditions-manual/1/2003/25>. The 2003 Standard Instructions - Goods or Services – Competitive Requirements is amended as follows:

- 2.1.1 The words "Bidder(s)" are replaced with the words "Respondent Team(s)";
- 2.1.2 The words "bid(s)" are replaced with the words "response(s)";
- 2.1.3 The name of the service offered by Canada Post Corporation (CPC) "epost Connect service" is replaced with the name "Canada Post Corporation's (CPC) Connect service"
- 2.1.4 Section 01 (2016-04-04) Integrity provisions—bid in the 2003 Standard Instructions is deleted.
- 2.1.5 Section 03 (2007-05-25) - Standard instructions, clauses and conditions, is deleted in their entirety.
- 2.1.6 Section 05 (2018-05-22) para 4 Submission of Bids are deleted in their entirety and amended as follows:

There is no validity period, since this Invitation to Qualify invites Respondent Teams simply to qualify. Canada will assume that all Respondent Teams wish to qualify unless they withdraw in writing.
- 2.1.7 Section 14 (2007-11-30) - Price Justification, are deleted in their entirety;
- 2.1.8 Section 08 (2019-03-04) - Transmission by facsimile or by Canada Post Corporation's (CPC) Connect service, is amended as follows: subsection 2, is deleted entirely and replaced with the following:

Canada Post Corporation's Connect service

Unless specified otherwise in the ITQ, responses may be submitted by using the Connect service provided by Canada Post Corporation. The only acceptable email address to use with CPC Connect is:

tpsgc.pareceptiondessaoumissions-apbidReceiving.pwgsc@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca

To submit a response using CPC Connect service, the Respondent Team must either:

send directly its response only to the specified PWGSC Bid Receiving Unit, using its own licensing agreement for CPC Connect provided by Canada Post Corporation; or

send as early as possible and, in any case, at least six business days prior to the ITQ closing date and time, (in order to ensure a response), an email that includes the ITQ ("bid solicitation") number to the specified PWGSC Bid Receiving Unit requesting to open a CPC Connect conversation. Requests to open a CPC Connect conversation received after that time may not be answered.

- a. If the Respondent Team sends an email requesting CPC Connect service to the specified Bid Receiving Unit in the ITQ, an officer of the Bid Receiving Unit will then initiate a CPC Connect conversation. The CPC Connect conversation will create an email notification from Canada Post Corporation prompting the Respondent Team to access and action the message within the conversation. The Respondent Team will then be able to transmit its response afterward at any time prior to the ITQ closing date and time.
- b. If the Respondent Team is using its own licensing agreement to send its response, the Respondent Team must keep the CPC Connect conversation open until at least 30 business days after the ITQ closing date and time.
- c. The ITQ ("bid solicitation") number should be identified in the CPC Connect message field of all electronic transfers.
- d. It should be noted that the use of CPC Connect service requires a Canadian mailing address. Should a Respondent Team not have a Canadian mailing address, they may use the Bid Receiving Unit address specified in the ITQ in order to register for the CPC Connect service.
- e. For responses transmitted by CPC Connect service, Canada will not be responsible for any failure attributable to the transmission or receipt of the response including, but not limited to, the following:
 - i. receipt of a garbled, corrupted or incomplete response;
 - ii. availability or condition of the CPC Connect service;
 - iii. incompatibility between the sending and receiving equipment;
 - iv. delay in transmission or receipt of the response;
 - v. failure of the Respondent Team to properly identify the response;
 - vi. illegibility of the response;
 - vii. security of response data; or,
 - viii. inability to create an electronic conversation through the CPC Connect service.
- f. The Bid Receiving Unit will send an acknowledgement of the receipt of response document(s) via the CPC Connect conversation, regardless of whether the conversation was initiated by the Respondent Team using its own license or the Bid Receiving Unit. This acknowledgement will confirm only the receipt of response document(s) and will not confirm if the attachments may be opened nor if the content is readable.
- g. Respondent Teams must ensure that they are using the correct email address for the Bid Receiving Unit when initiating a conversation in CPC Connect or communicating with the Bid Receiving Unit and should not rely on the accuracy of copying and pasting the email address into the CPC Connect system.
- h. A response transmitted by CPC Connect service constitutes the formal response of the Respondent Team and must be submitted in accordance with section 05.

2.1.9 Section 21 (2016-04-04) Code of Conduct for Procurement—bid in the 2003 Standard Instructions is deleted and replaced with the following:

21 Code of Conduct for Procurement

The procurement process is subject to the Code of Conduct for Procurement (<https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/app-acq/cndt-cndct/index-eng.html>).

2.2 SUBMISSION OF RESPONSES

2.2.1 Responses must be submitted only to Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) Bid Receiving Unit by the date, time and place indicated in the ITQ.

2.2.2 For Respondent Teams choosing to submit using CPC Connect, the email address is: tpsgc.pareceptiondessoumissions-apbidReceiving.pwgsc@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca.

2.2.3 Responses will not be accepted if emailed directly to this email address. This email address is to be used to open a CPC Connect conversation, as detailed in Standard Instructions 2003, or to send responses through a CPC Connect message if the Respondent Team is using its own licensing agreement for CPC Connect.

2.3 QUALIFIED SUPPLIER AND BIDDER

2.3.1 A Manufacturer can only be retained in one Qualified Supplier for the duration of the whole procurement process.⁷

2.3.2 It is not required for a potential Subcontractor to be listed among a Qualified Supplier's entities in order to perform work if this procurement process results in any contract or agreement.

2.3.3 Subcontractors can offer their goods and/or services to multiple Qualified Suppliers.

2.3.4 Canada reserves the right to request a list of Subcontractors at any phase of the NGFV procurement process.

2.3.5 At the RFP phase, only one Entity within a Qualified Supplier (including a joint venture of entities within a Qualified Supplier) will be allowed to submit one or multiple bids on behalf of the Qualified Supplier.

2.3.6 The Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle solution proposed for the RFP must be designed and built by the same Manufacturer as identified in the Qualified Supplier. This Manufacturer will be identified in the resulting contract for the purposes of delivering the required NGFV goods and services.

2.3.7 Qualified Suppliers intending to bid as an Entity described at article [1.3.2.3](#) must provide, on or before contract award, a performance guarantee signed by the Manufacturer. In addition, Bidders will be requested to provide, by bid closing, a letter signed by the Manufacturer, confirming that the Manufacturer will provide Canada with signed performance guarantees on or before award of the contracts to be awarded as a result of an eventual RFP. If this letter is not provided in the bid, the Contracting Authority will so inform the Bidder and provide the Bidder with a time frame within which to meet the requirement. Failure to comply with the request of the Contracting Authority and meet the requirement within that time period will render the bid non-responsive.

2.4 QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

2.4.1 Single Point of Contact

To ensure the integrity of the competitive procurement process, questions and other communications regarding this ITQ must be directed only to the Contracting Authority identified on the cover page of the ITQ. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the response being disqualified from further consideration.

2.4.2 Deadline for Asking Questions

All questions and comments regarding the ITQ solicitation must be submitted by email to the Contracting Authority no later than 5 calendar days before the ITQ closing date. Questions received after that time may not be answered.

2.4.3 Content of Questions

⁷ Canada must impose this requirement in order to ensure an efficient and diligent Phase II – Review and Refine Requirements (RRR see section 1.4.2) – which will follow the ITQ phase.

Respondent Teams should reference as accurately as possible the numbered item of the ITQ to which the question relates. Respondent Teams should explain each question in sufficient detail in order to allow Canada to provide an accurate answer. Any questions that a Respondent Team believes include proprietary information must be clearly marked "proprietary" at each relevant item. Items identified as proprietary will be treated as such unless Canada determines that the question is not of a proprietary nature. Canada may edit the questions or may request that the Respondent Team do so, so that the proprietary nature of the question is eliminated, and the edited question and answer may be provided to all Respondent Teams. Questions not submitted in a form that may be provided to all Respondent Teams may not be answered by Canada.

2.4.4 Publication of Answers

To ensure the consistency and quality of information provided to Respondent Teams, questions and the answers will be posted on buyandsell.gc.ca as an amendment to the ITQ.

2.5 PROCUREMENT DOCUMENTS PUBLICATION

2.5.1 Canada normally makes its procurement documents available for download through the buyandsell.gc.ca. However, by establishing a list of Qualified Suppliers, Canada will provide the procurement documents directly to the Qualified Suppliers, rather than making them available through buyandsell.gc.ca.

2.5.2 Upon request, Canada may, at its discretion, make information, technical specification, and ITB/VP documentation available to industry stakeholders.

2.5.3 Canada is not responsible for and will not assume any liabilities whatsoever for the information found on websites of third parties that reproduce the information on buyandsell.gc.ca.

2.5.4 Respondent Teams are solely responsible for consulting the buyandsell.gc.ca website regularly for the most up-to-date information. Canada will not be liable for any oversight by the Respondent Teams, nor for notification services offered by a third party.

2.6 RIGHTS OF CANADA

In addition to any other rights described in this ITQ, Canada reserves the right to:

2.6.1 Amend this ITQ, including the qualification criteria, at any time;

2.6.2 Suspend this ITQ at any time;

2.6.3 Cancel this ITQ at any time;

2.6.4 At any time during Phase II, suspend and reopen the ITQ Phase I.

2.6.5 Reissue the ITQ;

2.6.6 If no Respondent Teams are qualified and the requirement is not substantially modified, reissue the ITQ by inviting only those Respondent Teams who submitted responses to the ITQ to submit new responses within a period designated by Canada;

2.6.7 Reject and not consider further a response if, in Canada's opinion, any component of the response presents potential, perceived or real issues or matters that may be injurious to the national security of Canada; and

2.6.8 Remove at any time, any Qualified Supplier, if it presents potential, perceived or real issues that may be injurious to the national security of Canada.

2.7 SECURITY REQUIREMENTS

2.7.1 A Respondent Team is not required to have valid security clearance in order to become a Qualified Supplier. As the NGFV Project advances through different procurement phases, security requirements may be added.

2.7.2 Entities of Respondent Teams are not required to have security clearance in order to become a Qualified Supplier.

2.7.3 There will be security requirements associated with the RRR Phase. As security screening may be a lengthy process, Respondent Teams should ensure that their representatives participating in one-on-one sessions may be required to each hold a valid security clearance at the SECRET level, granted or approved by the PSPC Contract Security Program. To learn how to obtain security screening for your organization, please copy and paste the following link in a browser: <https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/esc-src/organisation-organization/enquete-screening-eng.html>.

2.7.4 There will be security requirements in the RFP. These security requirements will be discussed with the Qualified Suppliers during the RRR Phase.

3.0 PREPARING AND SUBMITTING A RESPONSE

3.1 LANGUAGE FOR FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS

Each Respondent Team is requested to identify, in the [Response Submission Form 1](#) at Annex C, which of Canada's two official languages the Respondent Team chooses to use for future communications with Canada regarding this ITQ and any subsequent phases of the procurement process.

3.2 CONTENT OF RESPONSE

3.2.1 A complete response to this ITQ consists of all of the following:

3.2.1.1 Signed and Dated ITQ Solicitation Cover Page (**Requested at ITQ Closing**): All Entities of the Respondent Teams are requested to sign and date the ITQ cover page and include it in the response.

3.2.2 Annex C - [Response Submission Forms](#) (**Requested at ITQ Closing**): Respondent Teams are requested to include the following completed forms with their response:

- a. Form 1 – Response Submission;
- b. Form 2 – Vehicle In Service Certification; and
- c. Form 3 – Qualification Requirements.

Note One: The forms provide a common format in which Respondent Teams may provide information required for evaluation. Using the forms to provide this information is not mandatory, **but it is recommended**.

Note Two: The Respondent Teams need to identify a Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle that meets all the requirements of this ITQ as listed at Annex A. The Qualified Supplier's proposed solution to Canada at the RFP phase must offer the same Vehicle Baseline Configuration identified at the ITQ phase without Major Changes. Respondent Teams must not assume that the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle identified in response to the ITQ will automatically be deemed compliant at the RFP Phase.

Note Three: If Canada determines, subject to article [4.2.4](#) herein, that the information required in [Annex A](#) and [Annex C](#) is missing or incomplete, Canada will provide the Respondent Team with opportunities to provide the additional information.

3.3 RESPONSE PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS

3.3.1 If the Respondent Team chooses to submit its response electronically, Canada requests that the Respondent Team submits its response in accordance with section 08 of the [2003](#) Standard Instructions and as amended herein as applicable. Respondent Teams who submit their responses using the CPC Connect must provide their response in a single transmission. The CPC Connect service has the capacity to receive multiple documents, up to 1GB per individual attachment.

3.3.2 All Respondent Teams should attempt to submit their responses electronically, through CPC Connect service. Canada's preference is to receive responses electronically. However, Canada will accept hard copies, in which case the following applies:

3.3.2.1 Eight hard copies (i.e., printed on paper) must be provided.

3.3.3 The Bid Receiving Unit address for the physical copy submission is found on the cover page of the ITQ.

3.3.4 If the Respondent Team is simultaneously providing copies of the response using multiple acceptable delivery methods, and if there is a discrepancy between the wording of any of these copies and the electronic copy provided through CPC Connect service, the wording of the electronic copy provided through CPC Connect service will have priority over the wording of the other copies.

4.0 PROCESS FOR EVALUATING RESPONSES

4.1 EVALUATION OF RESPONSES

Canada will evaluate whether each response satisfies all the mandatory requirements described in this ITQ. A response must comply with all the requirements of the ITQ in order for the Respondent Team to be declared qualified for the next phase of the procurement.

4.2 CONDUCT OF THE EVALUATION

4.2.1 Assessment of Responses

Responses will be assessed in accordance with all the requirements described in this ITQ, including all of the Annexes. Any element of this ITQ identified with the words "must", "required" or "mandatory" is a mandatory requirement. Responses that do not comply with each and every mandatory requirement after the application of 4.2.3.1 will be declared non-compliant and be disqualified. Once a response has been disqualified, Canada will have no obligation to evaluate the response further.

4.2.2 Evaluation Team

An evaluation team composed of representatives of Canada will evaluate the responses. Canada may hire any independent consultant, or use any Government of Canada resources, to evaluate any response. Not all members of the evaluation team will necessarily participate in all aspects of the evaluation.

4.2.3 Discretionary Rights during Evaluation

In conducting its evaluation of the responses, Canada may, but will have no obligation to, do the following:

4.2.3.1 Request Respondent Teams for additional information substantiating the compliance of the response with any mandatory requirement;

4.2.3.2 Seek clarification or verification from Respondent Teams regarding any or all information provided by them with respect to this ITQ; and

4.2.3.3 Verify any information provided by Respondent Teams through independent research and use of any government resources including government-to-government channels.

4.2.4 Requests for Clarifications

If Canada seeks clarification or verification or additional information from a Respondent Team about the response, the Respondent Team will have 3 working days (or a longer period if specified in writing by the Contracting Authority) to provide the necessary information to Canada. Depending on the nature of the request, failure to meet this deadline may result in the response being rejected.

4.2.5 Extension of Time to Respond

If additional time is requested by a Respondent Team(s), the Contracting Authority may grant an extension at his or her sole discretion.

4.3 BASIS OF QUALIFICATION

4.3.1 Each Respondent Team whose response meets all the requirements of this ITQ will become a Qualified Supplier for the next phases of the procurement process.

4.3.2 All Respondent Teams will be notified in writing whether or not they have qualified. In addition, the list of Qualified Suppliers will be published on buyandsell.gc.ca (including the Entities within the Respondent if applicable). Any changes to the list of Qualified Suppliers will be amended and published on buyandsell.gc.ca.

4.4 WITHDRAWALS AND ADDITIONS OF THE ENTITIES THAT FORM THE QUALIFIED SUPPLIER FOLLOWING ITQ PHASE

4.4.1 By submitting a response, the member of the Respondent Team(s) submitting the response acknowledges and accepts the following conditions for the Respondent Team(s):

4.4.1.1 The Manufacturer in the Respondent Team must remain part of the Respondent Team and, if applicable, Qualified Supplier for the entire NGFV procurement process (including ITQ, RRR and RFP). Any substitution or withdrawal of the Manufacturer within the Respondent Team or Qualified Supplier will result in disqualification of the Respondent Team, or Qualified Supplier from the NGFV procurement process and its removal from the list of Qualified Suppliers.

4.4.1.2 The non-Manufacturer entities of the Respondent Team and, if applicable, Qualified Supplier may be removed, substituted or withdrawn during the entire NGFV procurement process (including ITQ, RRR and RFP), by written request to the Contracting Authority, subject to Canada's approval and at Canada's discretion.

4.4.1.3 After Contract award, any substitutions to or withdrawal from the Qualified Supplier party to the Contract will be subject to Canada's approval, to be exercised at its sole discretion.

4.4.2 Following the ITQ phase, one or more entities may be added to a Qualified Supplier, by written request from a member of the Qualified Supplier party to the Contracting Authority, subject to Canada's approval and at Canada's discretion. These added entities may withdraw, or be removed by the Qualified

Supplier, by written request to the Contracting Authority, subject to Canada's approval and at Canada's discretion.

ANNEX A – QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Next Generation Fighting Vehicle – Performance Requirements

Serial	ITQ Requirements as per article 1.3	Proof of Compliance
1.	The Respondent Team must include, at a minimum, a Manufacturer of Fighting Vehicles that has successfully designed and built a Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle that's currently In Service.	<p>The Respondent Team must indicate the Entity being proposed as per article 1.3.1.1 of this ITQ and provide the completed Form 1 - Response Submission of Annex C.</p> <p>The Respondent Team must provide a brief description and history of the Manufacturer of the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle proposed for this ITQ at Form 3 – Qualification Requirements of Annex C.</p>
2.	<p>The Respondent Team must propose a Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle with all the following characteristics:</p> <p>a. It must currently be In Service by a NATO and/or Five Eyes military in the same Vehicle Baseline Configuration and with a Remote Weapon Station;</p> <p>b. It must be a Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle designed and built by the same Manufacturer as the one proposed as part of the Respondent Team;</p> <p>c. It must be a Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle for which the NATO Supply Classification Group Code is 2320 or 2355; and</p> <p>d. It must not exceed a vehicle Curb Weight of 8,500 kg.</p>	<p>The following information and specifications of the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle proposed for this ITQ must be provided by the Respondent Team.</p> <p>a. The Respondent Team must provide the completed Form 2 - Vehicle In Service Certification of Annex C certifying that the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle proposed for this ITQ is In Service by a NATO and/or Five Eyes military(ies) in the same Vehicle Baseline Configuration and with a Remote Weapon Station and providing contact information for a reference in the third party government for Canada to verify. The Respondent Team must provide Form 2 for one or all NATO and/or Five Eyes military(ies) that the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle proposed for this ITQ is In Service;</p> <p>b. The Respondent Team must provide the completed Form 3 – Qualification Requirements of Annex C, providing a description of the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle which includes the name, model, version, Manufacturer's name, history and evolution. The description must clearly identify the Vehicle Baseline Configuration of the proposed Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle; and</p> <p>c. The Respondent Team must provide the NATO Stock Number of the proposed Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle, demonstrating supply classification grouping 2320 or 2355 at Form 3 – Qualification Requirements of Annex C.</p> <p>d. The Respondent Team must provide the proposed Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle Curb Weight according to the definition of this ITQ at Form 3 – Qualification Requirements of Annex C.</p>

ANNEX B – ESTIMATED TIMELINES

Description	Estimated Timeline
Phase I: Invitation to Qualify <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Announcement of Qualified Suppliers	April 2022 May 2022
Phase II: Review and Refine Requirements Phase	June 2022 – December 2022
Phase III: Request for Proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none">1) Release of Surrogate Vehicle Acquisition RFP⁸2) Release of Final RFP<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submission of Proposal	July 2022 September 2023 Posted 60 Calendar Days

⁸ In the event that this strategy is considered required by Canada.

ANNEX C – RESPONSE SUBMISSION FORMS

Form 1 – Response Submission

Invitation to Qualify No. W6399-19KH53/E – Annex C, Form 1 – Response Submission													
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Indicate, by checking the box on the left, the Entity being proposed</p> <p>1. The applicable Manufacturer of the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle proposed for this ITQ;</p> <p>2. A proposed Joint Venture of which the Manufacturer of the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle proposed for this ITQ is a member; or</p> <p>3. A party proposing to act as a potential prime contractor that agrees with one or more companies, one of which is the Manufacturer of the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle proposed in the ITQ, to have the company(ies) act as its Subcontractor(s) under the contracts with Canada for the provision of the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicles, as well as its support.</p>												
<p>Full Legal Name: <i>The full legal names of each Entity that will form part of the Respondent Team.</i> (required) <i>add lines as required</i></p>	<p>1. 2. 3. 4. 5.</p>												
<p>Respondent Team Name <i>(if applicable: the name of each member of the proposed joint venture)</i> (optional) <i>add lines as required</i></p>	<p>1. 2. 3. 4. 5.</p>												
<p>Authorized representative of Respondent Team for all communications throughout procurement process <i>(e.g., clarifications and sending RFP)</i> (required)</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Name:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Title:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Address:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Telephone #:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mobile Phone #:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Email:</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Name:		Title:		Address:		Telephone #:		Mobile Phone #:		Email:	
Name:													
Title:													
Address:													
Telephone #:													
Mobile Phone #:													
Email:													
<p>Requested language for future communications regarding this procurement process – <i>please indicate either English or French</i></p>													
<p>By signing below, I confirm that I have read the entire ITQ and I certify and agree that:</p> <p>1. The Respondent Team considers itself and its products able to meet all the mandatory requirements described in the ITQ;</p> <p>2. The authorized representative above is authorized to be the Respondent Team's main point of contact with Canada and represent any resulting Qualified Supplier in all matters during the procurement process;</p> <p>3. The Respondent Team agrees to be bound by all the terms and conditions of this ITQ; and</p> <p>4. All the information provided in the response is complete, true and accurate.</p>													
<p>Date (required)</p>													
<p>Signature <i>(if applicable: the signature and names and titles of representatives of each member of the proposed Respondent Team)</i> (required) <i>add lines as required</i></p>	<p>1. 2. 3. 4. 5.</p>												

Form 2 – Vehicle In Service Certification

Invitation to Qualify No. W6399-19KH53/E – Annex C, Form 2 – Vehicle In Service Certification	
Name, Model and Version of the proposed Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle . <i>(required)</i>	
Manufacturer of the proposed Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle . <i>(required)</i>	
Identify the NATO and/or Five Eyes military that currently has In Service the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle proposed for this ITQ in the same Vehicle Baseline Configuration and with a Remote Weapon Station. <i>(required)</i>	
Respondent Team certify that the Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle proposed for this ITQ is In Service by a NATO and/or Five Eyes military in the same Vehicle Baseline Configuration and with a Remote Weapon Station. <i>(required)</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Third Party Government Reference Information	
Name <i>(required)</i>	
Title <i>(required)</i>	
Organization <i>(required)</i>	
Address	
Telephone # <i>(required)</i>	
Email <i>(required)</i>	

Form 3 – Qualification Requirements

Invitation to Qualify No. W6399-19KH53/E – Annex C, Form 3 – Qualification Requirements	
Name, model and version of the proposed Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle . <i>(required)</i>	
NATO Stock Number of the proposed Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle . <i>(required)</i>	
Vehicle Baseline Configuration description of the proposed Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle . Full vehicle build with Line-replaceable Units (LRU) for all components for the Vehicle Baseline Configuration of the proposed Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle must be provided which could also include but is not limited to parts catalogue. This information can be provided as a separate document attached to the ITQ response. <i>(required)</i>	
Manufacturer of the proposed Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle . <i>(required)</i>	
History and evolution of the proposed Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle . <i>(required)</i>	
History of the Manufacturer of the proposed Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle . <i>(required)</i>	
Curb Weight of the proposed Combat Variant of a Fighting Vehicle . In accordance with the definition of this ITQ, a breakdown of the Vehicle Baseline Configuration, all components, ancillaries and BII leading to the identified Curb Weight is required. This information can be provided as (a) separate document(s) attached to the ITQ response. <i>(required)</i>	