
AMENDMENT NO. 001

This amendment is raised to revise the RFP and answer Bidder's questions.

RFP REVISIONS

1. At Page 1 of the RFP Closing Time and Date

Delete: 2:00 p.m. EDT on 6 September 2023

Replace with: 2:00 p.m. EDT on 20 September 2023

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question 1: Received Friday, August 18th at 9:06AM

Could (*contractor name removed*) please be invited to submit a response to this RFP?

Answer 1:

There was no invitation sent for Solicitation No. W6369-23-P5PE, it is an open competition to all eligible suppliers.

Aucune invitation n'a été envoyée pour l'appel d'offres n° W6369-23-P5PE, il s'agit d'un appel d'offres ouvert à tous les fournisseurs éligibles.

Question 2: Received Friday, August 18th at 9:06AM

Is this a Tier 1 or a Tier 2 solicitation?

Answer 2:

This is a Tier II DND authority.

Il s'agit d'une autorité du MDN de niveau II.

Question 3: Received Friday, August 18th at 9:06AM

Will amendments be posted directly on the Canada Buys website, or will it be sent via email to all invited Bidders?

Answer 3:

The RFP is posted and can be found under the *Bidding details* tab of the notice, and any/all amendments will be posted directly on the CanadaBuys.

L'appel d'offres est affiché et peut être consulté sous l'onglet l'avis, et toutes les modifications seront affichées directement sur le site Web de CanadaBuys.

Question 4: Received Friday, August 18th at 3:14PM

Is there currently (or has there been in the last 12 months) an incumbent completing the same or similar work for the required roles? If so, would the Crown please provide the name of the incumbent firm and contract value?

Answer 4:

There are currently two resources under THS which is schedule to end at the end of November.

THS contract no. S4432164-1; value \$184,738.05

THS contract no. S4432164-2; value \$214,061.55

Il existe actuellement deux ressources dans le cadre des services d'aide temporaire, qui devraient se terminer à la fin novembre.

Question 5: Received Monday, August 21st at 11:33AM

Has there been an incumbent within twelve months (or greater) either as a Term; Casual or Agency Contract (THS, TSPS, TBIPS) performing these duties? If so, can you provide the number of days worked on said contract along with the dollar value?.

Answer 5:

See response to Question 4 above.

Voir la réponse à la question 4 ci-dessus.

Question 6: Received Monday, August 21st at 11:33AM

Given the complexity of the bid requirements in the solicitation, the number of resources required, and challenges with regards to reaching candidates/ clients for references during the summer holiday season and the upcoming labour day weekend, we respectfully request a two-week extension until September 20th 2023.

Answer 6:

The RFP Closing date is amended to 2:00 p.m. EDT on **20 September 2023**.

La date de clôture de l'appel d'offres est modifiée au **20 septembre 2023** à 14 heures.

Question 7: Monday, August 21st at 11:33AM

It states in the RFP that the estimated number of resources required is 4, as this is just an estimate can the Crown please confirm they will accept 2 candidate resumes with RFP submission, and the other estimated candidate resumes would be provided after contract award? This would decrease the level of effort and time for the crown during the evaluation phase which would support a contract award within the desired timeframe of the crown.

Answer 7:

Please see RFP, Part 3 – Bid Preparation Instructions, Section 3.2 Section 1 – Technical Bid, Article v. For Proposed Resources. The request will remain as stated, the resumes of 4 candidates with the RFP submission.

Vous devez répondre à tous les rôles et soumettre une proposition selon les instructions, section 3.2 article 5. La demande restera inchangée, les CV de 4 candidats seront joints à la soumission de l'appel d'offres.

Question 8: Monday, August 21st at 11:39AM

Corporate mandatory requirement M1 states that Bidders must cite contracts with a minimum contract value of \$1M (excluding applicable taxes). Would the Crown please consider reducing the contract value to \$500k? The current contract value requirement is prohibitive and IT cybersecurity resources are not typically contracted on long-term contracts that are high in value.

Answer 8:

The mandatory corporate criteria will remain as stated in the RFP.

L'exigence d'entreprise obligatoires seront demeurera telle qu'elle est énoncée dans l'appel d'offre.

Question 9: Monday, August 21st at 11:39AM

Corporate mandatory requirement M1 states that each contract must have a duration of two (2) years within the last eight (8) years. Would the Crown please consider amending this requirement and reducing it to one (1) year within the last eight (8) years? Cybersecurity resources provide specialized services on short-term engagements. Additionally, several clients, limited by budgetary constraints, engage cybersecurity on short-term contracts that do not typically exceed one (1) year.

Answer 9:

The mandatory corporate criteria will remain as stated in the RFP.

L'exigence d'entreprise obligatoires seront demeurera telle qu'elle est énoncée dans l'appel d'offre.

Question 10: Monday, August 21st at 11:39AM

Corporate requirement M1 states that the referenced contracts must include at least three (3) resources working simultaneously for a minimum of twelve (12) months. This requirement excludes qualified Bidders who have experience servicing cybersecurity contracts that required either a single resource or did not require multiple resources working simultaneously. Would the Crown please consider removing this requirement?

Answer 10:

The mandatory corporate criteria will remain as stated in the RFP.

L'exigence d'entreprise obligatoires seront demeurera telle qu'elle est énoncée dans l'appel d'offre.

Question 11: Monday, August 21st at 11:39AM

Due to the complexity of preparing a response to this solicitation and the large number of bids currently out to tender, we would like to request a two-week extension to the solicitation closing date to ensure that vendors are able to submit high quality responses that provide the best value to the Crown.

Answer 11:

See response to Question 6 above.

Voir la réponse à la question 6 ci-dessus.

Question 12: Monday, August 21st at 11:39AM

Would the Crown please confirm if there is currently, or has been within the past 6 months, any contracted resource performing the services described within the RFP? If so please identify the incumbent and contract value.

Answer 12:

See response to Question 4 above.

Voir la réponse à la question 4 ci-dessus.

Question 13: Monday, August 21st at 2:22PM

We understand that DND has immediate operational needs, however due to the large number of bids currently out to tender and the large amount of time and effort required to complete a

response for this RFP, would DND kindly provide a two-week extension to give Bidders enough time to complete a comprehensive response?

Answer 13:

See response to Question 6 above.

Voir la réponse à la question 6 ci-dessus.

Question 14: Monday, August 21st at 2:24PM

Given that resources will be needed on an "as-and-when required" basis, would the crown please allow vendors to submit one senior level resource, one senior C.3 IT Security Threat and Risk Assessment and Certification and Accreditation Analyst resource. Evaluating one of the four resources at bid submission will enable vendors to submit proposals of the highest value to the Crown, accurately demonstrate capabilities and allow the Crown greater flexibility in supporting this project.

Answer 14:

See response to Question 7 above.

Voir la réponse à la question 7 ci-dessus.

Question 15: Monday, August 21st at 2:46PM

Due to the specialized knowledge required by IT Security consultants, as well as the high-level nature of the work performed, many contracts issued for IT Security services are done on an individual basis, as opposed to multi-resource contracts. Therefore, for M1, would Canada consider allowing the following scenario:

- a) Bidders provide a single IT Security contract, which meets the stated parameters of M1.
- b) Bidders provide a second example of three (3) IT Security resources billing simultaneously for a period of at least twelve (12) consecutive months, which can be from 3 single contracts, and which total more than \$1,000,000.00 (\$1M) excluding applicable taxes.

Answer 15:

The mandatory corporate criteria will remain as stated in the RFP.

L'exigence d'entreprise obligatoires seront demeurera telle qu'elle est énoncée dans l'appel d'offre