REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

For

Snow Removal and Salting Services for Granville Island

Request for Proposal (RFP) No.: 002325

Issued: 14 September 2023

Submission Deadline: 10 October 2023 at 12:00 p.m. (noon) Pacific time

Address Inquiries to RFP Contact: Sara Brady, Senior Procurement Officer

Email: <u>sbrady@cmhc-schl.gc.ca</u>





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PART 1 – SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

1.1 OBJECTIVE OF THIS RFP

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation ("CMHC") is the Government of Canada's National Housing Agency, with a mandate to help Canadians gain access to a variety of affordable housing options. It is a Crown Corporation, with a Board of Directors, reporting to Parliament through the Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion,

CMHC has 2,000 employees located at its National Office in Ottawa, and at various business centres throughout Canada. The business centre areas are divided into five regions: Atlantic; Quebec; Ontario; British Columbia; and Prairies & Territories.

With this RFP, CMHC is seeking prospective proponents to submit proposals for **Snow Removal and Salting Services for Granville Island** on an "as and when required" basis with no guaranteed value or volume of work, as further described in the RFP Specifications (Appendix C).

Granville Island in Vancouver is designed to attract local residents and visitors to meet, explore and experience a variety of cultural, recreational, educational, commercial and industrial activities, year round. It is recognized as one of the most successful waterfront developments in North America. Granville Island is comprised of 15.2 hectares (37.6 acres) of land area and 2.1 hectares (5.3 acres) of tidal water area and represents a major public land holding near downtown Vancouver. Situated in False Creek between the Burrard and Granville Bridges, it is adjacent to the marinas and aquatic activities of both False Creek and English Bay. Granville Island is currently home to approximately 275 businesses and facilities.

The term of the agreement resulting from this RFP is to be for a period of two (2) years with an option to extend the agreement on the same terms and conditions for up to three (3) additional terms of up to one (1) year each.

1.2 RFP CONTACT

For the purposes of this procurement process, the "RFP Contact" will be:

Sara Brady, Senior Procurement Officer

sbrady@cmhc-schl.gc.ca

Proponents and their representatives are not permitted to contact any employees, officers, agents, appointed officials or other representatives of CMHC, other than the RFP Contact, concerning matters regarding this RFP. Failure to adhere to this rule may result in the disqualification of the proponent and the rejection of the proponent's proposal.

1.3 TYPE OF CONTRACT FOR DELIVERABLES

The selected proponent will be requested to enter into direct contract negotiations to finalize an agreement with CMHC for the provision of the scope of work and deliverables (collectively the "Deliverables"). The terms and conditions found in the Form of Agreement (Appendix D) are to form the basis for the agreement between CMHC and the selected proponent.

1.4 RFP PROCESS TIMETABLE

Issue Date of RFP	September 14, 2023
Mandatory Site Visit	September 26, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. (PDT)

Deadline for Questions	September 28, 2023 @ 12:00 p.m. (noon) PDT	
Deadline for Issuing Addendum	October 3, 2023	
Proposal Submission Deadline	October 10, 2023 @ 12:00 p.m. (noon) PDT	
Evaluation Deadline	October 2023	
Anticipated Contract Negotiation Period	Fourteen (14) calendar days	
Anticipated Execution of Agreement	November 2023	

The RFP timetable is tentative only and may be changed by CMHC at any time. Changes will be communicated in accordance with Section 3.2.2.

Mandatory Site Visit:

It is mandatory that the proponent visit the site and examine the scope of the work required and the existing conditions in order to bid on the work. Arrangements have been made for a mandatory tour of the work site. Depending on the number of attendees, the site visit meeting may be divided into several sessions. The site visit will be held on September 26, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. (PDT). The site is located at 1661 Duranleau St, 2nd Floor Vancouver, BC. The proponent must send confirmation of attendance by 12:00 PM (PDT) on September 25, 2023, including the name(s) of the person(s) who will be attending, via email to Sara Brady at sbrady@cmhc-schl.gc.ca. A maximum of two (2) representatives from each firm will be allowed to attend. The proponent who, for any reason, cannot attend at the specified date and time, will not be given an alternative appointment to view the site. Proponents are asked to meet at 1661 Duranleau St, 2nd Floor Vancouver, BC for an introduction to the project, an escorted site walk, followed by a question-and-answer period. Tenderers can submit written questions after their site visit which will be responded to as per Section 3.2.2.

1.5 Submission of Proposals

1.5.1 PROCUREMENT BUSINESS NUMBER

CMHC utilizes the Supplier Registration Information ("SRI") database maintained by Public Services and Procurement Canada ("PSPC") as the official CMHC source list. All proponents should be registered with PSPC prior to submitting a proposal. The Procurement Business Number ("PBN") provided by this registration must be included with the proponent's proposal. If proponents are not registered and wish to do so, please access https://buyandsell.gc.ca/for-businesses/selling-to-the-government-of-canada/register-as-a-supplier

1.5.2 PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED AT THE PRESCRIBED LOCATION IN PRESCRIBED MANNER

Proposal submissions must be emailed to CMHC's electronic bid submission system ("EBID") to the address indicated below:

Email Address: EBID@cmhc-schl.gc.ca ("Submission Location")

Proposals sent to any other e-mail address will not be considered.

Please be advised that EBID has a size limitation of 10 MB. Proponents may submit their proposal in multiple smaller files indicating the number of emails submitted (for example: email 1/3, 2/3, 3/3) in the body of the email. Individual proposal files are to be submitted in Microsoft Word or pdf format.

Note: Rich Text formatted or compressed (zipped) documents cannot be opened by CMHC.

Upon receipt of proposals, an automated confirmation will be issued by EBID to the sender's e-mail address. It is strongly recommended that proponents follow up with the RFP Contact should they not receive said confirmation within thirty (30) minutes of their submission.

1.5.3 PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED ON TIME

Proposals must be submitted pursuant to Section 1.5.2 above and on or before the submission deadline: October 10, 2023 @ 12:00 p.m. (noon) Pacific time ("Submission Deadline")

Proposals submitted after the Submission Deadline will be rejected. CMHC does not accept any responsibility for proposals delivered to any other location or by any other means by the proponent. Proponents are advised to make submissions well before the Submission Deadline. Proponents making submissions near this deadline do so at their own risk. Proponents will be deemed to be received when they enter into CMHC's systems and CMHC accepts no responsibility for proposals sent prior to this deadline that fail to enter into CMHC's systems by the Submission Deadline. For the purposes of this section, the time of delivery is deemed to be the time recorded by CMHC's systems.

1.5.4 AMENDMENT OF PROPOSALS

Proponents may amend their proposals prior to the Submission Deadline by submitting the amendment by email prominently marked with the RFP title and number and the full legal name and return address of the proponent to the email address set out above. Any amendment should clearly indicate which part of the proposal the amendment is intended to amend or replace. CMHC will assess the proposal "as is" and CMHC will not correct or accept any responsibility for errors submitted by the proponent.

1.5.5 WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSALS

At any time throughout the RFP process, a proponent may withdraw a submitted proposal. To withdraw a proposal, a notice of withdrawal must be sent to the RFP Contact and must be signed by an authorized representative of the proponent. CMHC is under no obligation to return withdrawn proposals.

[End of Part 1]

PART 2 - EVALUATION, NEGOTIATION AND AWARD

2.1 STAGES OF EVALUATION AND NEGOTIATION

CMHC will conduct the evaluation of proposals and negotiations in the following stages:

2.1.1 STAGE I - MANDATORY SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Stage I will consist of a review to determine which proposals comply with all of the mandatory submission requirements due at time of submitting the proposal, such as licences or certificates, and detailed in the RFP Specifications (Appendix C). Should a proponent not include a submission requirement with its proposal, the proponent will be notified by CMHC and will have forty-eight (48) hours from the time of notification to meet this requirement. Only proponents who meet the mandatory submission requirements will move on to the next stage 2.1.2 A.

2.1.2 STAGE II - EVALUATION

Stage II will consist of the following two (2) sub-stages:

(A) MANDATORY TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

CMHC will review the proposals to determine whether the mandatory technical requirements, as detailed in the RFP Specifications (Appendix C), have been met. The mandatory technical requirements must be met (assessment on a pass/fail basis) before the rated criteria can be considered. Questions or queries on the part of CMHC as to whether a proposal has met the mandatory technical requirements will be subject to the verification and clarification process set out in Section 3.2.4. Only proponents who meet the mandatory technical requirements will move on to the next sub-stage 2.1.2 B.

(B) Rated Criteria

CMHC will evaluate each qualified proposal on the basis of the rated criteria as set out in the RFP Specifications (Appendix C).

2.1.3 STAGE III - PRICING

Stage III will consist of a scoring of the submitted pricing of each qualified proposal in accordance with the price evaluation method set out in the Pricing Form (Appendix B).

2.2 RANKING AND CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

2.2.1 SCORING BY THE EVALUATION TEAM

The following scoring matrix has been developed to assist the Evaluation Team in the scoring process of the Rated Criteria:

Score	Evaluation Conclusion	Description
10	<u>Complete and clear</u> description provided that <u>exceeds</u> the requirements of the criteria. No weaknesses or deficiencies that would pose any risk to the proponent's ability to satisfy the requirement.	Outstanding
9	<u>Complete and clear</u> description provided of the proponent's ability to meet the criteria. No evident weaknesses or deficiencies that would pose any risk to the to the proponent's ability to satisfy the requirement.	Excellent

7-8	Above average description provided of the proponent's ability to consistently meet key criteria. Minimal weaknesses and/or deficiencies could exist but would not pose any significant risk to the proponent's ability to satisfy the requirement.	Very Good
5-6	<u>Average description</u> provided of the proponent's ability to meet key criteria. Minimal weaknesses and/or deficiencies could exist but would not pose any significant risk to the proponent's ability to satisfy the requirement.	Good
3-4	<u>Weak information</u> was provided with only a <u>partial description</u> of the proponent's ability to meet the criteria. There are discrepancies and/or deficiencies that pose some risks to the proponent's ability to satisfy the requirement.	Fair
1-2	<u>Very limited</u> information was provided to assess the proponent's ability to meet the criteria. There are serious discrepancies and/or deficiencies that pose important risks to the proponent's ability to satisfy the requirement.	Unsatisfactory
0	<u>Little or no</u> information provided to assess the proponent's ability to meet the criteria.	No Response

Partial scores (for example 1.5, 2.5, 3.5 and so on) may be assigned. Individual proponent scores will be reviewed and tabulated to reach an average score multiplied by the percentage weighting for each rated criteria except for pricing, which will be evaluated as described in Appendix B – Pricing Form.

2.2.2 RANKING OF PROPONENTS

After the completion of Stage III, all scores from Stage II (B) and Stage III will be added together, and the proponents will be ranked based on their total scores. The top-ranked proponent will receive a written invitation to enter into direct contract negotiations to finalize the agreement with CMHC. In the event of a tie, the successful proponent will be the proponent selected by way of negotiations, requiring proponents to answer additional questions, provide supplementary information or make additional presentations such that CMHC may revisit and re-evaluate the proponent's proposal or ranking on the basis of any such information in an effort to select a top-ranked proponent.

2.2.3 CONTRACT NEGOTIATION PROCESS

Any negotiations will be subject to the process rules contained in the Terms and Conditions of the RFP process (Part 3). The negotiation process will not constitute a legally binding offer to enter into a contract on the part of CMHC or the proponent and there will be no legally binding relationship created with any proponent prior to the execution by both CMHC and the proponent of a written agreement. The terms and conditions found in the Form of Agreement (Appendix D) are to form the basis for commencing negotiations between CMHC and the selected proponent. As a part of the negotiation process, CMHC may request supplementary information from the proponent to verify, clarify or supplement the information provided in its proposal or to confirm the conclusions reached in the evaluation and CMHC may include requests for improved pricing or performance terms from the proponent.

2.2.4 TIME PERIOD FOR NEGOTIATIONS

CMHC intends to conclude negotiations and finalize the agreement with the top-ranked proponent during the Contract Negotiation Period, in accordance with the timeframe outlined under Section 1.4 of this RFP.

A proponent invited to enter into direct contract negotiations should therefore be prepared to: (i) satisfy the pre-conditions of award listed in Section O of the RFP Specifications (Appendix C), (ii) provide requested information in a timely fashion, and (iii) conduct negotiations expeditiously.

2.2.5 FAILURE TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT

If the pre-conditions of award listed in the RFP Specifications (Appendix C) are not satisfied or if the parties cannot conclude negotiations and finalize the agreement for the Deliverables within the contemplated Contract Negotiation Period, pursuant to section 1.4 of this RFP, then CMHC may discontinue negotiations with the top-ranked proponent and invite the next-best-ranked proponent to enter into negotiations. This process will continue until: (i) an agreement is finalized, (ii) there are no more proponents remaining that are eligible for negotiations or (iii) CMHC elects to cancel the RFP process.

2.2.6 NOTIFICATION OF NEGOTIATION STATUS

Other proponents that may become eligible for contract negotiations may be notified at the commencement of the negotiation process with the top-ranked proponent.

[End of Part 2]

PART 3 – TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE RFP PROCESS

3.1 GENERAL INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

3.1.1 PROPONENTS TO FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS

Proponents should structure their proposals in accordance with the instructions in this RFP. Where information is requested in this RFP, any response made in a proposal should reference the applicable section numbers of this RFP.

3.1.2 PROPOSALS IN ENGLISH OR FRENCH

Proposals may be submitted in English or French.

3.1.3 NO INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

The entire content of the proponent's proposal should be submitted in a fixed form, and the content of websites or other external documents referred to in the proponent's proposal but not attached will not be considered to form part of its proposal.

3.1.4 REFERENCES AND PAST PERFORMANCE

In the evaluation process, CMHC may include information provided by the proponent's references and may also consider the proponent's past performance or conduct on previous contracts with CMHC or other institutions.

3.1.5 INFORMATION IN RFP ONLY AN ESTIMATE

CMHC and its advisers make no representation, warranty, or guarantee as to the accuracy of the information contained in this RFP or issued by way of addenda. Any quantities shown or data contained in this RFP or provided by way of addenda are estimates only and are for the sole purpose of indicating to proponents the general scale and scope of the Deliverables. It is the proponent's responsibility to obtain all the information necessary to prepare a proposal in response to this RFP.

3.1.6 PROPONENTS TO BEAR THEIR OWN COSTS

The proponent will bear all costs associated with or incurred in the preparation and presentation of its proposal, including, if applicable, costs incurred for interviews or demonstrations.

3.1.7 PROPOSAL TO BE RETAINED BY CMHC

All proposals and related materials provided by the proponent shall, as of the Submission Deadline, become the sole property of CMHC and will not be returned to the proponent.

3.1.8 TRADE AGREEMENTS

Proponents should note that procurements falling within the scope of Chapter 5 of the Canadian Free Trade Agreement and/or Chapter 19 of the Canada-European Union (EU) Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) are subject to that trade agreement but that the rights and obligations of the parties will be governed by the specific terms of this RFP.

3.1.9 NO GUARANTEE OF VOLUME OF WORK OR EXCLUSIVITY OF CONTRACT

CMHC makes no guarantee of the value or volume of Deliverables to be assigned to the successful proponent. The agreement to be negotiated with the selected proponent will not be an exclusive contract for the provision of the described Deliverables. In its sole discretion, CMHC may contract with others for

goods and services that are the same as or similar to the Deliverables or may obtain such goods and services internally.

3.2 COMMUNICATION AFTER ISSUANCE OF RFP

3.2.1 PROPONENTS TO REVIEW RFP

Proponents should promptly examine all of the documents comprising this RFP and may direct questions or seek additional information in writing by email to the RFP Contact on or before the Deadline for Questions, pursuant to Section 1.4 of this RFP. No such communications are to be directed to anyone other than the RFP Contact. CMHC is under no obligation to provide additional information, and CMHC is not responsible for any information provided by or obtained from any source other than the RFP Contact. It is the responsibility of the proponent to seek clarification from the RFP Contact on any matter it considers to be unclear. CMHC is not responsible for any misunderstanding on the part of the proponent concerning this RFP or its process.

3.2.2 ALL NEW INFORMATION TO PROPONENTS BY WAY OF ADDENDA

This RFP may be amended only by addendum in accordance with this section. If CMHC, for any reason, determines that it is necessary to provide additional information relating to this RFP, such information will be communicated to all proponents by addendum. Each addendum forms an integral part of this RFP and may contain important information, including significant changes to this RFP. Proponents are responsible for obtaining all addenda issued by CMHC. In the Submission Form (Appendix B), proponents should confirm their receipt of all addenda by setting out the number of each addendum in the space provided.

3.2.3 POST-DEADLINE ADDENDA AND EXTENSION OF SUBMISSION DEADLINE

If CMHC determines that it is necessary to issue an addendum after the Deadline for Issuing Addenda, CMHC may extend the Submission Deadline for a reasonable period of time.

3.2.4 VERIFY, CLARIFY AND SUPPLEMENT

When evaluating proposals, CMHC may request further information from the proponent or third parties in order to verify, clarify or supplement the information provided in the proponent's proposal, including but not limited to clarification with respect to whether a proposal meets the mandatory technical requirements set out in Section I of the RFP Specifications (Appendix C). CMHC may revisit and re-evaluate the proponent's proposal or ranking on the basis of any such information.

3.3 NOTIFICATION AND DEBRIEFING

3.3.1 NOTIFICATION TO OTHER PROPONENTS

Once an agreement is executed by CMHC and a proponent, the other proponents will be notified of the outcome of the procurement process.

3.3.2 DEBRIEFING

Proponents may request a debriefing after receipt of a notification of the outcome of the procurement process. All requests must be in writing to the RFP Contact and must be made within sixty (60) days of such notification. The intent of the debriefing information is to aid the proponent in presenting a better proposal in subsequent procurement opportunities. Any debriefing provided is not for the purpose of providing an opportunity to challenge the procurement process or its outcome. The debriefing will be provided in writing.

3.3.3 PROCUREMENT PROTEST PROCEDURE

If a proponent wishes to challenge the RFP process, it should provide written notice to the RFP Contact in accordance with the applicable trade agreement. The notice must provide a detailed explanation of the proponent's concerns with the procurement process or its outcome.

3.4 CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND PROHIBITED CONDUCT

3.4.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

CMHC may disqualify a proponent for any conduct, situation, or circumstances, determined by CMHC, in its sole and absolute discretion, to constitute a "Conflict of Interest", as defined in the Submission Form (Appendix A).

3.4.2 DISQUALIFICATION FOR PROHIBITED CONDUCT

CMHC may disqualify a proponent, rescind an invitation to negotiate or terminate a contract subsequently entered into if CMHC determines that the proponent has engaged in any conduct prohibited by this RFP.

3.4.3 PROHIBITED PROPONENT COMMUNICATIONS

Proponents must not engage in any communications that could constitute a Conflict of Interest and should take note of the Conflict-of-Interest declaration set out in the Submission Form (Appendix A).

3.4.4 PROPONENT NOT TO COMMUNICATE WITH MEDIA

Proponents must not at any time directly or indirectly communicate with the media in relation to this RFP or any agreement entered into pursuant to this RFP without first obtaining the written permission of the RFP Contact.

3.4.5 NO LOBBYING

Proponents must not, in relation to this RFP or the evaluation and selection process, engage directly or indirectly in any form of political or other lobbying whatsoever to influence the selection of the successful proponent(s).

3.4.6 ILLEGAL OR UNETHICAL CONDUCT

Proponents must not engage in any illegal business practices, including activities such as bid-rigging, price-fixing, bribery, fraud, coercion or collusion. Proponents must not engage in any unethical conduct, including lobbying (as described above) or other inappropriate communications; offering gifts to any employees, officers, agents, appointed officials or other representatives of CMHC; deceitfulness; submitting proposals containing misrepresentations or other misleading or inaccurate information; or any other conduct that compromises or may be seen to compromise the competitive process.

3.4.7 PAST PERFORMANCE OR PAST CONDUCT

CMHC may prohibit a supplier from participating in a procurement process based on past performance or based on inappropriate conduct in a prior procurement process with CMHC or any other organization, including but not limited to the following:

- (1) illegal or unethical conduct as described above;
- (2) the refusal of the supplier to honour its submitted pricing or other commitments; or

(3) any conduct, situation or circumstance determined by CMHC, in its sole and absolute discretion, to have constituted an undisclosed Conflict of Interest.

3.5 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

3.5.1 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION OF CMHC

All information provided by or obtained from CMHC in any form in connection with this RFP either before or after the issuance of this RFP:

is the sole property of CMHC and must be treated as confidential;

is not to be used for any purpose other than replying to this RFP and the performance of any subsequent contract for the Deliverables;

must not be disclosed to third parties without prior written authorization from the RFP Contact; and must be returned by the proponent to CMHC immediately upon the request of CMHC.

3.5.2 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION OF PROPONENT

A proponent should identify any information in its proposal, or any accompanying documentation supplied in confidence for which confidentiality is to be maintained by CMHC. The confidentiality of such information will be maintained by CMHC, except as otherwise required by law or by order of a court or tribunal. Proponents are advised that as a Crown Corporation, CMHC is subject to the federal legislation with respect to access to information and privacy. Information submitted by third parties will be protected or may be required to be disclosed in specific circumstances pursuant to the federal legislation. Proponents are also advised that their proposals may, as necessary, be disclosed on a confidential basis, to CMHC's advisers retained to advise or assist with the RFP process, including the evaluation of proposals. If a proponent has any questions about the collection and use of personal information pursuant to this RFP, questions are to be submitted to the RFP Contact.

3.6 PROCUREMENT PROCESS NON-BINDING

3.6.1 NO CONTRACT A AND NO CLAIMS

This procurement process is not intended to create and will not create a formal, legally binding bidding process and will instead be governed by the law applicable to direct commercial negotiations. For greater certainty and without limitation:

- (1) this RFP will not give rise to any Contract A-based concept or any other similar legal concepts or principles that may be applicable to the procurement process; and
- (2) neither the proponent nor CMHC will have the right to make any claims (in contract, tort, or otherwise) against the other with respect to the selection of proponents, a decision to reject a proposal or disqualify a proponent, or a decision of the proponent to withdraw its proposal.

Notwithstanding the foregoing or anything to the contrary herein, CMHC's total liability to proponents for any cause of action arising out of or in relation to this RFP process, giving rise to liability, whether in contract or in tort, shall be limited to the reasonable costs incurred by proponents in preparing its proposal for matters relating to this RFP process. In no event, whether in contract or in tort shall CMHC be liable for any indirect, consequential, exemplary, punitive, incidental, or special damages or lost profits, even if CMHC has been advised of the possibility of such damages in advance.

3.6.2 NO CONTRACT UNTIL EXECUTION OF WRITTEN AGREEMENT

This RFP process is intended to identify prospective suppliers for the purposes of negotiating potential agreements. No legal relationship or obligation regarding the procurement of any goods or services will be created between the proponent and CMHC through this RFP process until the successful negotiation and execution of a written agreement for the acquisition of such goods and/or services.

3.6.3 NON-BINDING PRICE ESTIMATES

While the pricing information provided in proposals will be non-binding prior to the execution of a written agreement, such information will be assessed during the evaluation of the proposals and the ranking of the proponents. Any inaccurate, misleading, or incomplete information, including withdrawn or altered pricing, could adversely affect the evaluation or ranking or the decision of CMHC to enter into an agreement with the proponent for the Deliverables.

3.6.4 CANCELLATION

CMHC may cancel or amend the RFP process without liability at any time.

3.7 GOVERNING LAW AND INTERPRETATION

These Terms and Conditions of the RFP Process:

- (1) are intended to be interpreted broadly and independently (with no particular provision intended to limit the scope of any other provision).
- (2) are non-exhaustive and will not be construed as intending to limit the pre-existing rights of the parties to engage in pre-contractual discussions in accordance with the common law governing direct commercial negotiations; and
- (3) are to be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the province of Ontario and the federal laws of Canada applicable therein.

[End of Part 3]