

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS



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NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BCAFN ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION REPORT

To:	All BC Chiefs, Delegates and Partners	Date:	March 21, 2022
From:	Vanessa West, Chief of Staff	Pages:	3
RE:	REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL– DEVELOPMENT OF THE BCAFN ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION REPORT		

The British Columbia Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN) is a Provincial Territorial Organization (PTO) representing the 203 First Nations in British Columbia. BCAFN representation and advocacy is inclusive and extends to First Nations currently engaged in the treaty process, those who have signed modern treaties, those who fall under historic treaty agreements which include the Douglas Treaties and Treaty 8, and First Nations in BC that are not in treaty negotiations.

The BCAFN, along with the Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) and the First Nations Summit (FNS) that comprise the Leadership Council, has made First Nations economic development a priority and a focus for continued growth and development.

The BCAFN has taken a lead role in this area and is working on several fronts to advance First Nations capacity and capability to achieve their economic development goals and objectives. This work includes the development of the BC First Nations Economic Development Centre of Excellence.

BCAFN is requesting proposals for the development of the Economic Participation Report.

Objective

The objective of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to inform and solicit applications from qualified candidates/organizations that possess a high degree of capability, capacity and experience and that can develop and support this work for the BCAFN. Please submit your application in confidence to sarah.behn@bcfn.ca by **March 25th, 2022** (deadline extension).

The proposal must include:

1. A statement and description of the resources required to complete the deliverables in alignment with the expectations outlined in this RFP;

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2. A statement of experience, including Indigenous economic development experience and expertise;
3. A cost breakdown including fees and other expenses of each proposed project phase and team member;
4. A statement of what you would require from the BCAFN; and
5. The name of three (3) references which have used the services of the Bidder for similar services/projects.

Organizational Background

The BCAFN Regional Chief provides the political leadership for the BCAFN and is elected to this role by the BC First Nations Chiefs for a term of three years. BCAFN is further governed by a Board of five directors, elected to three-year staggered terms. Each board member is a Chief or designate for their First Nation community. BCAFN hosts a Special Chiefs Assembly and an Annual General Assembly every spring and fall which allow for BC First Nations leadership to engage in open socio-political discussions to provide community-driven directives to the Regional Chief through resolution.

BCAFN is one of ten regional organizations affiliated with the national Assembly of First Nations whose members include 633 First Nations across Canada. The BCAFN Regional Chief sits on the AFN Executive Committee whereby his/her role is to ensure regional concerns of BCAFN members are included in National political discussions and decision-making processes. The Regional Chief also holds specific portfolios, including economic development, that deal with national policy issues and concerns.

The BCAFN Society is registered under the Societies Act of British Columbia. As an incorporated society, BCAFN operates with its own regionally specific mandates for BC First Nations that include meaningful participatory relationships with the provincial and federal governments as well as industry, and which aim to close the socio-economic gap between First Nations and non-First Nations people.

As part of its economic development mandate, the BCAFN is finalizing the development and implementation of the above noted Centre of Excellence (CoE). To accompany the CoE's launch, this Economic Participation Report will be a benchmark to guide BC First Nation's economic progress moving forward.

There are a few examples of these types of reports to model from; including the recently published "*Opening the Door to Opportunity: Reporting on the Economic Contribution of Indigenous Peoples in Alberta*". This report established a baseline for Indigenous economic contribution in the province of Alberta, estimated to be \$6.74 billion or two percent of Alberta's GDP in 2019. ¹

Expectations

General

The objective of this report is to describe and establish a baseline report on the size and shape of the BC First Nation economy, including from the following perspectives.

¹ ATB.com November 2021



- Size of the BC Indigenous economy
- Ways in which Indigenous Peoples (First Nations and Persons) contribute to the BC economy
- Size of the BC Indigenous economy relative to BC economic activity (e.g., % of GDP)
- Estimate of the economic contribution of indigenous governments, households and businesses to the BC economy
- Analysis of the degree of First Nations participation in key BC industry sectors

Timeline

This RFP will close on March 25th, 2022 (deadline extended from March 11th, 2022); it is estimated that a successful proponent will be chosen by the end of March 2022. The scheduled completion date is September 30, 2022. These dates are subject to change.

Miscellaneous

Rights of the BCAFN

The BCAFN reserves the right to:

1. Reject any or all proposals received in response to this Request for Proposals;
2. Enter into negotiations with one or more Bidders on any or all aspects of their respective proposals;
3. Contacting and requesting information related to the Bidder's qualifications from any of the references provided by the Bidder.
4. Accept any proposal in whole, or in part.
5. Cancel and/or re-issue the modified version of a given RFP requirement, including the right to request a confirmation of the Bidder's legal status and signed documentation; and
6. Award contracts without competition for follow-up work, if any, to the selected Bidder for a given project requirement.

Price

Bidders must provide a firm fixed price, including administrative fees, travel, material costs, printing of draft concepts, and GST.

Confidentiality

Submissions will be considered confidential information by the BCAFN and will be used solely for the purpose of selecting the successful Bidder.

Contact Information

All proposals will be acknowledged. Your proposal submission must be received by the extended deadline date of **March 25th, 2022** at 4pm PST. Submissions and questions may be sent by email to:

Sarah Behn, Economic Development Policy Analyst

BC Assembly of First Nations

Email: sarah.behn@bcafn.ca

Cell: 778-945-9911

