



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Anishinabek Education System (AES) Information Management System

BACKGROUND:

The Anishinabek Nation/Union of Ontario Indians, which represents 39 First Nations from across Ontario, has been negotiating self government agreements with the Government of Canada in education and governance for over 10 years.

In September 2011, the negotiation of the Education Final Agreement was completed. However, negotiation of the Education Fiscal Transfer Agreement, Participating First Nation Fiscal Contribution Agreement and Implementation Plan remain and are slated to be completed by May 2012.

Borne out of the Education Final Agreement is the Anishinabek Education System. This education system encompasses the mechanism for the Anishinabek Nation to assume full control of the delivery of kindergarten to Grade 12 education to Anishinabek Nation citizens on First Nations. It comprises 3 levels – the First Nation/the Local Education Authority, the Regional Education Councils and the central education body called the Kinomaadswin Education Body (KEB). The proposed Anishinabek Education System is scheduled to be operational on April 1, 2014. (This date is subject to change.)

Within the Anishinabek Education System (AES) is the requirement for an information technology system that would facilitate the sharing and management of data between the First Nations and the KEB. In order to do so, the KEB must be equipped with the proper information technology system. In addition, the Anishinabek First Nations will also require the necessary capacity to feed into this system.

This information technology system will be similar to that of the provincial education system in which data flows from the schools to the district school boards (DSB) in order to be responsive to student needs. Specific criteria determine data that is tracked and managed through a Student Management System at the school level and then sent out to the DSB. This information, in turn, is used to determine policies, programs and practices aimed at improving student achievement.

The Anishinabek Education System, although a fraction of the size of the provincial district school board system, requires an effective and efficient information technology and management system that will permit the First Nations to manage data that aims at offering the highest quality education experience for each student.

REQUIRED WORK:

Through the development of an IT Strategy and a subsequent Implementation Plan, the scope of the work required is as follows:

1. Determine and recommend the most effective student management system to be used by the First Nations and First Nation schools, including the costs to implement and maintain.
2. Determine and recommend the most effective data management system, similar to the Ministry of Ontario's OnSIS, to be housed at the Kinomaadswin Education Body, including the costs to implement and maintain.
3. Determine and recommend an internal network system for the Kinomaadswin Education Body, including the costs to implement and maintain.
4. Determine and recommend the training and costs needed to implement this new information technology system within the Kinomaadswin Education Body and the First Nations, including the cost of ongoing training.
5. Recommend staffing requirements within the KEB to maintain the recommended IT system.
6. Determine and recommend an effective data management program, ie. DocuShare, to be used by the Kinomaadswin Education Body, including the costs for training, implementation and maintenance.
7. Prepare bid packages to the different vendors that would supply the development of this information management system for the AES.
8. Determine the implementation of an IT system for the AES including human resources, timelines, training, costs.

TIMELINES AND DEADLINES:

1. Proposal Submission – February 10, 2012 by 4:00 p.m.
2. Notification to commence – February 14, 2012
3. Submission of IT Strategy and Implementation Plan – April 13, 2012
4. Bid Package Completion – April 20, 2012

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

A response to this request for proposal will be considered firm for the duration of the project. Respondent shall submit only one proposal to this RFP. Respondents shall deliver their proposal (via e-mail) to the contact person noted below, by 4 pm on the deadline date.

The proposals will be kept confidential until a contract is awarded. All contracts for professional services are subject to the review and the approval of the Union of Ontario Indians.

All information and documents that are used and developed become the property of the Union of Ontario Indians.

RESPONDING TO THE RFP:

Respondents will submit:

- a) a statement of their qualifications,
- b) a thorough outline of the methodology for the review and analysis, and
- c) A detailed outline of their fees and costs to perform the work.

The description of the Kinomaadswin Education Body/Anishinabek Education System, as well as a schematic of the entire system and any relevant documents can be provided upon request.

Contact Person

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