Haida Gwaii Community Forest Consultant

Request for Proposals

April 14, 2016

Background

The Minister of Forests offered the civic communities of Haida Gwaii an 80,000 m³ Community Forest Agreement (CFA) in 2010. The Misty Isles Economic Development Society (MIEDS) is the economic development agency for these communities, and has been pursuing this offer for several years. MIEDS represents the Villages of Masset, Port Clements, and Queen Charlotte, and the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District Areas D and E. A variety of unique circumstances have increased the complexity of this project, including a Market Pricing System requirement, discussions with the Council of the Haida Nation (CHN), and constraints on the timber harvesting land base on Haida Gwaii. MIEDS is seeking professional assistance to identify and evaluate options to establish a CFA.

Project Description and Scope

The contractor will work with MIEDS to ensure a thorough understanding of the project’s history. Through meetings with MIEDS staff, Board members, community representatives, and other stakeholders, the contractor will identify and describe the options available, and provide a cost/benefit analysis of these options. This information will be presented to MIEDS and the communities for discussion and a decision on the best course of action. The contractor will not speak on behalf of MIEDS, or engage in negotiations with the Province of BC, CHN, or any other organizations.

Timeline

This RFP will be advertised from April 14 – May 2, 2016, and the contract will be awarded by May 4. The contractor will be expected to submit all deliverables and present to MIEDS and the Councils by July 30, 2016.
**Evaluation Criteria**

Proposals will be evaluated based on the applicant’s understanding of and experience with:

- The forestry industry on Haida Gwaii, in BC, and internationally
- The Haida Gwaii Strategic Land Use Agreement and Land Use Plan
- First Nations issues, including Haida Gwaii’s history
- Community Forest Agreements
- The Softwood Lumber Agreement, Market Pricing System, and BC Timber Sales

Applicants must provide a sample of past work related to the aforementioned topics. Applicants must also provide 2 references to confirm their past experience. Creative and innovative options outside the scope of this proposal may be considered. Preference will be given to collaborative approaches that include a local consultant and proponents with operating experience in community forest management and business practices.

MIEDS reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, and will not be responsible for any costs incurred by the proponents in preparing a response.

**Deliverables**

Specific details and expectations will be discussed with the contractor. At a minimum, the contractor will deliver:

- A report including:
  - Basic history of the CFA offer
  - Current circumstances and upcoming changes (eg. Timber Supply Review, Softwood Lumber Agreement expiration, etc.)
  - Detailed analysis of the local industry (local manufacturing capacity and needs, future expansions, CFA and BCTS opportunities, etc.)
  - Description of local development, operations, and stumpage costs applicable to the proposed CFA
  - Perspectives of key players, including but not limited to: FLNRO, BCTS, and CHN
  - Needs and preferences of each of the communities represented by MIEDS
Available options, and the advantages and disadvantages of each, including socioeconomic benefits
- Estimated revenues and costs of each option, and
- Other relevant qualitative and quantitative information
- A presentation to the MIEDS Board and each municipal Council, including the information included in the report

Proposal Guidelines

Proposals must be submitted via email by no later than 4:30 PM on Monday, May 2, 2016. Proponents must be free of obligations or interests that may affect their ability to act independently and objectively. Proponents are welcome to contact MIEDS for more information prior to the submission of their proposal. Proposals must include:

- Name and qualifications of primary contact
- Experience and work history
- Sample of relevant work, and two references
- Description of applicant suitability for the contract
- Total cost and itemized budget
- Proposed work plan, including approach to the project and scheduling details

Contact Info

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Proposed Areas for a Haida Gwaii CFA Tenure