



Request for Expressions of Interest Geotechnical Investigations City of Morden, Manitoba

The City of Morden is one of the fastest growing communities in Manitoba, with a vision that aims to increase the population by over 50% in 5 years. The City's Corporate Plan, identifies key measures that will facilitate that growth sustainably, preserving the nature and character of the City. Among the measures that we are taking towards a comprehensive City Master Plan, we have determined that geotechnical information is necessary to support City development and management. We are distributing this request broadly to invite experts in geotechnical and related fields to submit expressions of interest to partner with the City in determining the breadth and depth of geotechnical information that we require for our purposes.

The City sees the value of a city-wide geotechnical study for at least the following purposes:

1. *Soil properties for infrastructure.* Designs for such infrastructure as roads, water and sewer, and land drainage systems are greatly affected by soil conditions from material selection to construction methods (and ultimately, cost). The information collected will be useful in selecting appropriate materials for underground pipes, determining the strength of in-situ soils for road structure designs, anticipating how soil chemistry and other properties could affect the life-cycle of materials and infrastructure, for instance.
2. *Foundation designs for structures.* In-depth geotechnical investigations are generally not practical for foundation designs for a single residential structure, for instance; however, in the absence of such information it is possible that foundations are broadly over-designed based on assumptions about soil properties. Such over design can be costly to the building community, affectively overall affordability, especially in light of the fact that soil properties vary throughout the City.
3. *Groundwater patterns and levels.* The effect of groundwater on the life expectancy of water, sewer, drainage, and road infrastructure is well understood. Inflow and infiltration (I/I) of groundwater into the City's sewerage system through cracks in pipes, and also through weeping tile/sump drain connections is a difficult problem to address in existing infrastructure. Groundwater characteristics in undeveloped areas of the City will be useful in determining the types of materials to use in new sewer construction, and also on measures that the City could take to reduce the risk of inflow and infiltration; in existing areas of the City it will be useful to determine groundwater patterns in order to prioritize I/I reduction efforts.
4. *Asset Management.* The City is undertaking the development of an asset management system that includes the geotechnical characteristics as a factor in the determination of the operation and maintenance, risk, preventative improvements, and other factors related to the cost effective and optimal management of our infrastructure.

5. *Environmental protection.* The City has important natural features, such as the Deadhorse Creek, within its borders. The geotechnical characteristics of such features are important for determining measures to protect them from development, and to protect development from these features as the case may be.

The City foresees that expressions of interest will include recommendations for parameters and scope for geotechnical services of an appropriate level of effort and detail to facilitate the City's objectives. As such, we anticipate the following process for the procurement of services:

1. Prospective consulting firms submit an EOI presenting their firm, a proposed scope of services, including options for varying levels of detail and effort and approximations of costs and schedules.
2. The City reviews the EOIs and selects a few firms to submit competitive proposals on the basis of a detailed Request for Proposals specifically from those firms selected through this EOI process. The scope of the RFP will be the direct result of the EOI process.
3. The City reviews proposal submissions and selects a proposal that fits the criteria identified in the RFP.

We intend to evaluate all expressions of interest as follows:

1. The experience and level of expertise of the consultant, including any subconsultants or material experts you intend to use. As such, please provide details of the team you expect to use;
2. The proposed scope of works (including any options that you present for consideration), study parameters, and objectives;
3. Any other information considered necessary for the City's selection.

Key Dates

1. Expression of Interest submission deadline: 28th October, 2015
2. City review of proposals and selection of proponents to proceed to RFP stage: 6th November, 2015;
3. RFP process completion: 23rd November, 2015.

Limitations

Upon submission of an expression of interest by a supplier, the supplier acknowledges, accepts, and agrees to the following:

1. That submission of an expression of interest does not create a contract or agreement in any form between a supplier and the City of Morden, or any of the City's representatives;
2. Verbal discussions, clarifications, or interpretations are not binding on the City of Morden, relying on verbal communication is at the sole risk of a supplier. Only clarifications or interpretations issued in written form are to be relied upon in the preparation and submission of EOIs and proposals throughout this process;

3. The City reserves the right to add, delete, and change any and all criteria at any time, including the evaluation criteria, and without notice to any supplier or proponent throughout the process. Where the City deems appropriate the City may provide notification of such changes, but is in no way liable towards any proponent on the basis of such changes.
4. The submission of a proposal in the RFP process will include terms and conditions typical of RFPs. Proponents should expect that participation in that process indicates the proponent's willingness and intent to enter into a contract with the City of Morden on the basis of a submitted proposal; as such, submission of a proposal at this stage is binding on the supplier to enter into a contract with the City of Morden if the City chooses to accept a proposal.
5. The City may choose, at its discretion to enter into discussions with any proponent for the purposes indicated in this EOI, and to any extent that the City deems necessary for this process.

To register your intent to submit an expression of interest, and for all enquiries, please contact the undersigned directly.

Sincerely,



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