



November 21, 2018

Request for Proposals

Northern and Remote First Nations Elementary-Secondary Cost Drivers

Issued by:

The Assembly of First Nations
Education Sector
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OVERVIEW

In September 2017, the Assembly of First Nations Task Team for the Unique Needs of Northern and Remote Communities began its work on First Nations education. One of the initial undertakings of this Joint Task Team is to address the underfunding of education in remote and isolated communities.

In December 2017, the Chiefs-in-Assembly resolved to support a new policy proposal for a new funding approach for First Nations elementary-secondary education. As part of this new funding approach, interim regional funding formulas, which use the respective provincial funding formulas as a base allocation, will take effect for the 2019-20 fiscal year. These regional formulas will be continually monitored and revised through joint Regional Technical Tables between First Nations and the federal government. At the same time, First Nations across the country will be developing bilateral Regional Education Agreements (local, regional and Treaty-based) to better reflect their vision of First Nations Control of First Nations Education.

In preparation to support the Regional Technical Tables and Regional Education Agreements, the Assembly of First Nations is commissioning research to investigate cost drivers associated

with delivering elementary-secondary education in northern, remote and isolated schools and communities. This research will support the work of First Nations in providing an objective basis for assessing and improving the interim regional funding models and Regional Education Agreements so they adequately reflect the real costs required to deliver quality education in northern, isolated and remote communities.

OBJECTIVE

This project will deliver a comprehensive research report that identifies and summarizes additional costs and cost drivers associated with delivering quality First Nations education in northern, isolated and remote schools and communities across Canada.

This project will focus on the need to identify non-salary education cost drivers for northern, isolated and remote First Nations, and provide criteria that will determine weightings/allowances similar to the methodology used by the [National Joint Council \(NJC\) – Isolated Posts and Government Housing Directive](#).

The overall objective of this work is to propose a set of criteria that can be used to identify the higher costs for delivering elementary-secondary education in for northern, isolated and remote First Nations.

SCOPE AND WORK AND COMPOSITION

Parameters for Investigation and Research

1. Identify a list of non-salary education cost drivers that impact delivering elementary-secondary education in northern, isolated and remote First Nations communities and schools. Cost drivers will be non-capital costs and include, but not limited to: professional development, school transportation, access to internet, consultants, etc.
2. Develop a set of criteria that will calculate weights/allowances that can be used to offset higher costs to deliver education northern, isolated and remote First Nations schools and communities. This approach to developing criteria will be similar to the methodology used by the NJC Isolated Posts and Government Housing Directive
3. Apply the newly developed criteria to a set of northern, isolated and remote First Nations to evaluate the impact of the criteria/weightings.
4. Work closely with the RFP Steering Committee, including the Assembly of First Nation's K-12 Funding Experts Task Team, who will help provide feedback for the researcher as well as support for identifying schools, communities and data sets as required.
5. The first research draft will be presented, in person, to the RFP Steering Committee for feedback, comments and revisions on Feb 7, 2019 in Ottawa.

TIMEFRAME

Work to begin January 1, 2019, and have the first draft completed by February 7, 2019 with the final draft completed by March 31, 2019.

PROJECT COST AND BUDGET: \$49,000 (including all travel).

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Proposals will be accepted only in the form of electronic files. The following documents should be attached to the submission:

- A. Project Overview: This section will include credentials, relevant past and current experience, the approach to the scope of work, a timeline for activities, management approach, work statement and schedule.
- B. Capabilities and Experience: This section will highlight relevant experience, skills and capacity, resources and or facilities to support work, foreseeable challenges and how to work with them, examples of recent relevant work.
- C. Project Budget: A detailed cost breakdown inclusive of salaries, resources, travel and materials.

APPROVAL AND CRITERIA

Technical Merit

- Indigenous involvement and/or experience (15 points)
- Capacity to do the work (20 points)
- Management of the work (15 points)
- Methodology (15 points)
- Quality of proposal (15 points)

Financial Merit

- Price (10 points)
- Quality of the price quote (10 points)