



Request for Information (RFI)
Number: __PW01-2016_____

The District of Kitimat is requesting information from interested parties for the supply a minimum 2,500 tons per hour capacity, diesel powered, and self-propelled snow blower. This RFI is intended to gather information that could assist the District of Kitimat in the development of a future procurement process. In the event that sufficient information is received, the District of Kitimat may, but is not obligated to, initiate a competitive bidding opportunity.

The District of Kitimat covers approximately 320 km² at the end of the Kitimat Arm of the Douglas Channel on BC's northwest coast. Kitimat is about 1,400 km northwest of Vancouver, 635 km west of Prince George and about 50 km south of Terrace via provincial highways. Kitimat is uniquely characterized by its Pacific inland coast setting.

Kitimat's climate is locally moderated from the harshest marine weather by the mountainous topography and distance from the open ocean. The average annual temperature is 7.5°C and annual average precipitation is 2,750 mm, including about 425 cm of snow. Kitimat receives about 1,500 hours of sunshine a year and a frost-free period of approximately 165 days from mid-May to mid-October.

Kitimat's annual snowfall may seem exceptional, but the Public Works department keeps main roads clear of snow, and clears residential streets on a daily basis. Pedestrian walkways and sidewalks are also cleared regularly. There are 76 kilometers of paved roads and 41.5 kilometers of sidewalk/walkways that the crews maintain. This maintenance is somewhat unique in comparison to other local communities as they blow the snow on to the residential properties, between driveways, walkways and fire hydrants. They continually stop and go at every residential driveway, sidewalk and fire hydrant. They do *not* blow the snow into the back of a dump box on a continuous thread.

Currently the District of Kitimat is operating five self-propelled snow blowers in the winter months:

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| 1. | 2012 Kodiak CR520S | Unit 39 |
| 2. | 2011 Larue T85 | Unit 44 |
| 3. | 2002 SMI 7250A | Unit 42 |
| 4. | 1996 Vohl NV-95 | Unit 40 |
| 5. | 1996 Vohl DV-904 | Unit 45 |

The District of Kitimat is looking to potentially replace the two 1996 Vohl's with similar machines, if available.

The purpose of issuing this RFI is to:

- a) determine the level of market interest;
- b) obtain information on potential new technologies or approaches;
- c) obtain recommendations that would enhance the success of a future procurement opportunity for this project;
- d) obtain high-level cost estimates for budget purposes;
- e) obtain information on potential demonstrations of machines or opportunities to use the potentials machines and,
- f) provide industry with an opportunity to comment on the potential procurement opportunity.

Interested parties are invited to respond to this RFI by submitting a response to the District of Kitimat. Responses should include ideas, information and recommendations that could result in a clarification of

the requirements, cost-saving opportunities, and the identification of potential problem areas with this initiative.

Respondents are requested to provide a concise and focused response to this RFI. Responses are requested in the following format (e.g.):

- a) brief company profile;
- b) name of a key contact person, including telephone number, fax number and email address;
- c) information, advice and recommendations organized as requested in this RFI;
- d) identification and discussion of key factors that the respondent recommends the District of Kitimat consider when establishing its future business requirements; and,
- e) other required information specific to the nature of this RFI and deemed important by the respondent.

Responses should include:

- a) information on suggested machines;
- b) information on potential new technologies or approaches;
- c) recommendations that would enhance the success of a future procurement opportunity;
- d) high-level cost estimates for budget purposes and;
- e) information on the potential of our municipal employees participating in demonstrations of machines or opportunities to use the potentials machines.

Respondents are specifically requested not to submit price proposals (other than high-level cost estimates for budget purposes) or information about the qualifications or experience of their firm or individuals in their firm. This RFI will not be used to evaluate, rank or select vendors, nor will it be used to pre-qualify or screen vendors for a subsequent competitive bidding process, if any.

If subsequent competitive bidding opportunities are issued, the District of Kitimat is under no obligation to advise any vendor responding to this RFI. Vendors are advised to monitor the BC Bid website (www.bcbid.ca) for any such opportunities, which will be open to all vendors regardless of whether or not a response to this RFI has been submitted.

All responses to this RFI become the property of the District of Kitimat and will be held in confidence, subject to the provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Respondents to this RFI consent to the District of Kitimat incorporating any submitted ideas, concepts, approaches, or strategies into any planning, design, procurement, or contractual activities related to any aspect of the project without any obligation, liability, or consideration on the part of the District of Kitimat. The District of Kitimat will not be responsible for any costs incurred by any vendor in responding to this RFI.

Responses should be delivered by hand, regular mail, facsimile or email to the following location before 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time on September 26th, 2016 and should quote RFI Number PW01-2016:

District of Kitimat
Purchasing Department
270 City Centre
Kitimat, BC V8C 2H7
Email: purchasing@kitimat.ca

OR

Contact Person:
Robyn Iannarelli
Purchasing Agent
purchasing@kitimat.ca