

FN Education Data Infrastructure Blueprint - Project C

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Education Data Infrastructure Project Lead

Deadline for Submissions Monday, September 28, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. EST

Background

The First Nations with Schools Collective strives to work collaboratively as an inter-nation table devoted to education jurisdiction talks. Since early 2016, eight communities have met regularly to research, share knowledge, and build capacity in education system change and return of jurisdiction. The Collective strives to work on common interests particularly in the areas of education governance, funding parity and research & innovation.

Each community maintains its autonomy as self-governing nations and follow their own unique pathways to self-determination in education. All are parties to a *Participation Agreement* signed in November 2018. The six 'participating' communities of the eight First Nations that make up the FNWSC are: Bkejwanong Territory-Walpole Island, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames First Nation, Sagamok Anishnawbek, and Wiikwemikoong Unceded Territory. Two communities maintain observer status; Six Nations of the Grand River territory and M'Chigeeng First Nation.

Vision

The Collective strives for:

- Strong education governance structures in First Nation communities rooted holistically in First Nations cultures, languages and histories;
- Equitably resourced First Nation education systems in First Nation communities servicing First Nation members that are culturally-appropriate;
- Family-centered approaches to First Nations education system design; and,
- Exceptional educational outcomes defined locally for First Nation learners where learners meet and exceed non-First Nation learner achievement levels in academic outcomes.

Mission

The First Nations with Schools Collective is a volunteer body of First Nation governments that exists to advance control over First Nation education in First Nation communities. The FNWSC has a forward-thinking mission and commitment to building capacity in education system planning at the community-level. Specifically, FNWSC delegates gather to:

- Build honourable governance knowledge and capacity amongst First Nation titleholders;
- Provide a collective voice for First Nation led education system transformation;
- Develop governance tools, policies and frameworks that respond to needs of First Nation learners and communities.

Project Description

This project will address year one outcomes of the FNWSC's 3-Year strategic plan. This project is a continuation of past FNWSC work related to funding formula data gaps, data management policy writing and success indicator development. In consultation with participating communities of the FNWSC, the Education Data Infrastructure Lead will map out a data infrastructure blueprint for FNWSC communities to utilize as a community discussion starter related to measurement of progress made in education .

Expected Outcomes

1. Greater understanding amongst education leaders of data management systems and architecture needs of First Nation education systems.
2. Greater capacity to engage in data discussions at the community level as it relates to education system change, funding parity and research and innovation.
3. Increased experience identifying, collecting, assessing, and reporting on a common data set agreed to by participating FNWSC communities.
4. Increased consensus-building around practices and approaches to data management and data architecture design that are culturally-appropriate.

Deliverables 2020-2021

1. Develop, in consultation with FNWSC participating communities, a First Nation education data infrastructure blueprint.
2. Present a Data Blueprint Findings & Recommendations Report to include results using a case study approach involving participating FNWSC communities from October 2020 to March 2021.

Project Timeline

This project will commence within two weeks of this RFP's closing date and will be completed by March 31, 2021.

Scope of Work

A. Develop a First Nation Education Data Blueprint

- Community Engagement – build capacity, advise and consult elected/appointed leaders in education at FNWSC strategic planning sessions 2020-2021 and/or at other venues deemed appropriate on data infrastructure needs, gaps and approaches.
- Policy implementation – Using the draft FNWSC Data Management Policy develop the conditions needed to collect, analyze and report on a common data set as defined by the FNWSC EFFRG for the project (October-December).
- Team Support - Work closely with FNWSC consultant team members where appropriate and needed in preparation for bi-monthly progress updates to FNWSC via teleconference.
- Development of a First Nation education data blueprint– research, consult, analyze, and develop a schematic or blueprint that illuminates the scope of work related to education data metrics including cultural specific data needs in consultation with the FNWSC

Education Funding Formula Reference Group (EFFRG), Chief and Councils, and FNWSC community delegates.

- Present and consult 1st draft of FN Education data infrastructure blueprint to FNWSC for feedback and review (January 2021).

B. Develop a First Nation Data Blueprint Findings and Recommendations Report

- Prepare a case study approach and engagement plan for the identification of a test data set (maximum 3) to work through as a Collective over the length of the project (see calendar attached).
- Collect FNWSC participating community experiences, practices, and reflections related to common data set identification, collection, analysis and reporting and make recommendations.
- Provide advise, share information and participate in monthly FNWSC EFFRG meetings as needed to complete deliverables of the project.
- Coordinate working sessions with the FNWSC SRC on data management work and participate in FNWSC Strategic Planning Sessions (as required, see calendar).
- Share any findings regarding data infrastructure funding needs with FNWSC consultant team working on funding parity project.
- Prepare an interim progress report in December 2020
- Present 1st Draft of Findings and Recommendations Report to FNWSC for feedback and review (February 2021).
- Present a final draft of findings report (March 2021).

Project Lead Tasks

The Project Lead will identify and mobilize project team members and ensure preparation and support for FNWSC political and administration officials in all decision-making related to the project.

The Project Lead will provide preparations of briefing notes, status updates and advisory supports as it related to the project to both Structural Readiness Coordinator and FNWSC elected officials and their delegates as needed.

The Project Lead will be prepared to provide a PowerPoint Overview Presentation to the FNWSC upon completion in March 2021.

The Project Lead will produce an Interim Report in December 2020 including any initial findings from community engagements/working sessions.

The Project Lead will co-create the data infrastructure blueprint with FNWSC delegates and their appointees, as well as support the coordination of any EFFRG and community engagement sessions related to the project.

The Project Lead will comply with the stated Scope of Work and to complete deliverables on or before March 31, 2021 (including a 1 hour presentation to FNWSC date to be determined).

The Project Lead will meet with the groups in the stated Scope of Work, including FNWSC EFRG and participate in FNWSC’s Strategic Planning Sessions (see calendar).

Response to Call

Please provide the following **by September 28, 2020**:

- Description of your project management approach to ensure timeliness and cost effectiveness.
- Experience with First Nation education systems, data management, Indigenous research methodologies and education and well-being measurement practices and frameworks globally.
- Proposed project timeline and work plan.
- An itemized budget indicating anticipated level of effort and fees, and any other disbursement costs that exclude travel and consultation costs. A separate budget is available for travel costs which will be based on a projected travel plan co-created by FNWSC and successful candidate.
- Any examples of related written work and/or one or more reference who can attest to related work performed and have given consent to be contacted as a reference.
- Proposals must contain a fixed price for services and expenses herein described and are not to exceed \$20,000. Proponents must bear the cost of the preparing a response to the RFP.

Proposal Evaluation

Proposed Methodology	Demonstrates understanding of the project Methodology meets the needs of the FNWSC Innovation and quality Clarity and logic	30
Proposed Project Plan and Timeline	Consistent with TOR Realistic Flexible	15
Consultant Qualifications and Expertise	Experience and qualifications Involvement of Indigenous peoples in work plan deliverables	40
Proposed Fees and Disbursements	Level of detail and clarity Value	15

Please submit your interest to Leslee White-Eye, Structural Readiness Coordinator at lwhite-eye@fnwsceducation.com. Questions about proposal content and scope can be sent to Leslee via email or by phone at 519-902-4145.