

Request for Proposals

Matawa First Nations Education Authority Cost of Education Report Implementation

December 22, 2017

I. Background

Matawa First Nations Education

Matawa First Nations is a Tribal Council of nine Northern Ontario First Nations located in Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN). The Matawa First Nations Education Authority (MFNEA) provides quality, accessible, community based educational support services for participating Matawa First Nation schools. In addition, the MFNEA provides post-secondary support services and operates the Matawa Learning Centre. Further information about the MFNEA and the Matawa First Nation schools can be found on our website: <http://education.matawa.on.ca>.

Regional Education Strategic Plan

In July 2015, the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly approved by resolution the renewed *Regional Education Strategic Plan*. The new strategic plan includes ten strategic initiatives, each of which has associated short-, medium- and long-term goals. The ten strategic initiatives are:

1. A Matawa First Nation Curriculum and Incorporation of First Nation Culture and History
2. Special Education
3. Student and Parental Supports
4. Minimum Standards and Reporting
5. Student Attendance, Retention and Completion
6. Teacher Recruitment and Retention
7. School Infrastructure
8. Information Technology
9. Post-Secondary School Readiness and Retention
10. Partnerships



The Chiefs resolution also called for the development of strategic and business plans for the MFNEA, which will inform the role that the MFNEA will take in the implementation of the new strategic initiatives and what organizational structure will best facilitate this work.

In 2017, MFNEA conducted a study of the costs associated with education in the Matawa First Nations. The result of this study was a report comparing the costs of education in a Matawa First Nation and a nearby comparable public school board. The report provided a number of recommendations to implement in order for Matawa First Nations to deliver an education program at least meeting the standard level of the province.

II. Scope of Work

Matawa First Nations Education Authority Cost of Education Implementation Plan

The MFNEA is seeking to develop an implementation plan for the *Cost of Education* report which identified the needs and related costs to bring Matawa schools, education programs and services, and related infrastructure equal to and exceeding provincial standards, in order to implement the renewed *Regional Education Strategic Plan*.

To this end, the MFNEA is requesting proposals from qualified consultants, or firms with a demonstrated ability to provide professional services, for the development of an implementation plan for the *Cost of Education* report to provide direction for the continued growth, sustainability and development of the Matawa First Nations schools and MFNEA. Specifically, the qualified consultant or firm will be required to:

- Review the *Regional Education Strategic Plan*;
- Review the *Cost of Education* report;
- Review the Matawa First Nations' schools current education programs, services and related infrastructure through community and school visits and interviews with key groups;
- Review *Jury Recommendations from First Nations Youth Inquest* and other available documentation such as Truth and Reconciliation Commission's *Calls to Action*, *The Journey Together: Ontario's Commitment to Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples*, and operational and policy documents for regional school boards and the Ministry of Education;
- Research best practices from across the country including but not limited to provincial Ministries of Education, First Nations education organizations and provincial school boards for carrying out the implementation plan; and
- Prepare a detailed implementation plan of the *Cost of Education* report



recommendations for improving programs, services and related infrastructure.

Deliverables for this contract will include:

- Meetings and/or discussions to gather input and feedback
- An implementation plan including a work schedule with cost analysis reflecting timelines, required staffing and avenues for funding to carry out the implementation of the recommendations. The implementation plan should be of sufficient quality as to inform the development of long-range planning for improved programs, services and infrastructure for the schools, as well as identifying any role MFNEA might provide in moving this work forward.

III. Requirements for RFP

- Company information
- A summary of process to be followed
- A schedule of activities
- Final pricing, including HST
- Three references from similar past projects

IV. Schedule of Work

Activity	Description	Timeline	Deliverable
Review of relevant documents	Review available documentation and conduct interviews with staff and applicable stakeholders regarding the strategic initiatives or activities outlined in MFNEA's <i>Cost of Education</i> report, <i>Regional Education Strategic Plan</i> and <i>Jury Recommendations from First Nations Youth Inquest</i> . Review other available documentation such as Truth and Reconciliation Commission's <i>Calls to Action</i> , <i>The Journey Together: Ontario's Commitment to Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples</i> , and operational and policy documents for regional school boards and the Ministry of Education.	January 22, 2018	Update meeting to discuss progress and next steps
Gather input from	Facilitate a meeting and discussion to	February 2,	Meeting & discussion



MFNEA Board of Directors (MFNEA BoD)	gather input from the MFNEA BoD for the implementation plans for each Matawa school and MFNEA.	2018	facilitation
Prepare draft implementation plan for the MFNEA to review	Based on the reviews, visits, interviews and other related sources of information, draft a plan for each Matawa school and MFNEA in order to implement the <i>Cost of Education</i> report.	February 23, 2018	Draft implementation plan
Present draft implementation plan to the MFNEA BoD	Facilitate a meeting and discussion to review the implementation plans for each Matawa school and MFNEA.	March 9, 2018	Meeting & discussion facilitation
Revised implementation plan	Revise implementation plan based on feedback from the MFNEA BoD and the Matawa Education Department.	March 23, 2018	Final implementation plan

V. Deadline for Submission

Proposals must be received by fax, email or at the address specified no later than **January 12, 2018**.

VI. Delivery Schedule

The successful consultant will complete all work on or before **March 31, 2018**.

VII. Queries and Clarifications

For queries and clarifications regarding the RFP, please contact:

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