



Request for Proposals: Deadline extension (now May 7) **Project Management Services**

March 2021

Context

Nature United is the Canadian affiliate of [The Nature Conservancy](#) (TNC), a global conservation organization whose mission to conserve the lands and waters upon which all life depends. Nature United and The Nature Conservancy have been a leader in [Canadian conservation initiatives](#) for over a decade, largely in partnership with Indigenous peoples. This has led to the development of [an approach for ethically and effectively supporting Indigenous-led conservation](#) which underpins the 2020-2025 strategic focus of the organizations on i) sustainable resource management and ii) mitigation of climate change.

Nature United works directly in partnership with Indigenous Nations in BC and is seeking project management services for a large multi-pronged project in [Clayoquot Sound](#). With The Nature Conservancy, Nature United has been working with First Nations in Clayoquot Sound for 10 years on a project focused on implementing the land use visions of the First Nation governments. These visions involve changing a commercial forestry tenure, managed by a First Nation owned forestry company, to new protected areas and community forestry areas. Completion of this effort, which will include new conservation areas desired by the First Nations, will result in capitalization of a multi-million dollar stewardship endowment for the First Nations and compensation of the forestry company for the lost tenure. Additionally, development of a forest carbon project and forest management plans will provide an opportunity for revenue generation for First Nations and is a core part of the work over the next year. Due to both funding commitments and political (ie election) timeframes, we are under pressure to see this effort completed by December 2022.

A team of 12 TNC/NU staff and contractors implement the program which involves a number of workstreams with five Indigenous governments, three ministries within the Province of British Columbia, the forestry company and its Board (Mamook Natural Resources), two major philanthropic funders, the federal government, and four environmental organizations.

We are looking for a trained project management professional who can:

- i) Meet with key staff to understand the workstreams
- ii) Develop clear definition of critical milestones, along with their timelines
- iii) Develop clear critical paths and contingency plans for critical gates
- iv) Initiate and manage issue/ risk mitigation strategies
- v) Track spending against budget, bringing redflags to the attention of the program director
- vi) Recommend resourcing (dollars and people) shifts to ensure completion of the critical path

- vii) Provide the structure and ask probing questions to bring key risks to the attention of the program director and team, so they can provide solutions in a rapid timeframe
- viii) Provide weekly reporting of workstream status and red flags to a small management team

The ideal candidate will be laser focused on ensuring the team addresses the key risks and that as an organization we have done everything we can to ensure success of this project; many aspects of this work are beyond our control but we want to know that by December 2022 we have done everything we can to try to complete this effort. The candidate will understand Nature United's principles for respectful partnership with Indigenous peoples.

Request for Proposals:

Through this consultancy, we seek either individuals or firms in Canada or the U.S. that can provide project management services for Nature United and The Nature Conservancy's work in Clayoquot Sound. We anticipate an initial 6 month consultancy with a possible extension, to be determined in the fall of 2021.

Response to the Request for Proposals:

Nature United welcomes the opportunity to discuss this opportunity prior to submission, clarify objectives and answer questions. Jenny Brown can be reached per the contact information below.

Please submit a proposal up to 5 pages in length that includes the following:

- Description of the approach you would take to this consultancy including the roles of all team members
- Project timeline of workflow, key tasks and payment schedule
- Proposed project budget including, if applicable, other expense contingencies; due to COVID-19 we are assuming no travel will be required.
- Relevant experience and expertise of the proposed team members

Proposals should be emailed to Eric Delvin at edelvin@tnc.org prior to 5 p.m. Pacific Time on **May 7, 2021. Please contact Eric Delvin or Jenny Brown (jfbrown@tnc.org) with questions. For more information on Nature United, please visit www.natureunited.ca.**