

Request for Proposal: Inuvialuit Reindeer Herd Initiative

Issued by:

Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC)

107 Mackenzie Road

Inuvik, NT X0E 0T0

Deadline for submissions: September 23, 2026

1.0 Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

Mandate

The mandate of Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) is to continually improve the economic, social and cultural wellbeing of the Inuvialuit through the implementation of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) and by all other available means.

Operating philosophy

The mandate and corporate goals of IRC can only be met through a strong commitment by all directors, officers and employees of IRC to an operating philosophy of teamwork, dedication and coordination of both planning and action. The focus of all efforts must be the improved wellbeing of the Inuvialuit. This will be the core criterion by which all corporate activities are measured.

2.0 Invitation

Inuvialuit Regional Corporation ("IRC") invites proponents to submit proposals for the Inuvialuit Reindeer Herd Initiative, as per the information described in this document.

3.0 Compliance, contacts and meetings

- 3.1 Proponents who submit proposals may not amend or waive any of the terms of this RFP. This RFP details the scope of services required, submission and experience requirements, and selection criteria. No other understanding or agreement, collateral, oral or otherwise, exists.
- 3.2 All questions, comments and clarifications relating to this RFP shall be addressed to procurement@inuvialuit.com no later than September 13, 2026.
- 3.3 During the bidding period and through to when the contract is awarded, the organization/individual shall not contact any employee of IRC, or any of its affiliates, for additional information, except in writing with copy to procurement@inuvialuit.com.

4.0 Submission requirements

- Proponents will provide their submissions and/or information to access their submissions to IRC titled: Request for Proposal - Inuvialuit Reindeer Herd Initiative

4.1 Submissions will be addressed to: Inuvialuit Regional Corporation at procurement@inuvialuit.com.

4.2 Adjustments or amendments to submissions must be received prior to the closing date and time noted in this request for proposal, or as modified by addendum.

4.3 All submissions shall be firm proposals open for acceptance for sixty (60) days from the RFP closing date set out, or as modified by addendum.

4.4 IRC may amend this RFP during the request for proposal call period by means of written addenda issued to all proponents. Proponents must acknowledge receipt of any addenda in their submission.

5.0 Confidentiality

5.1 All information provided in this RFP and all submissions received will be treated as confidential. Proponents are advised to clearly identify any proprietary or confidential information in their submissions.

5.2 IRC reserves the right to use the information contained in any submission for the purpose of evaluating the submission, but not for any other purpose.

6.0 Terms and conditions

6.1 By submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, the proponent agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions set out in this document. Failure to comply with these terms and conditions may result in disqualification of the submission.

6.2 IRC reserves the right to amend, cancel or reissue this RFP at any time and for any reason. Proponents will be notified of any such changes via addendum.

6.3 IRC are not liable for any costs or expenses incurred by proponents in the preparation and submission of their proposals. All such costs are the sole responsibility of the

proponent.

7.0 Contractual terms:

The successful bidder will be required to enter a formal contract with Inuvialuit Regional Corporation outlining the terms and conditions of the project. Contract negotiations will commence following the selection of the preferred bidder.

NOTE:

This RFP is not a call for tenders or a request for binding offers and no contractual or other legal obligations shall arise between IRC and any proponent as a result of the issuance of this RFP or the submission of any proposal in response to this RFP, until and unless IRC and a proponent enter into a contract for the work sought by IRC under this RFP.

Acknowledgment

By signing below, I acknowledge and agree to comply with the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation requirements and its project, and confirm I have read and understood the contents of the RFP.

Date:
Company Name:
Company Representative:
Representative Position:
Contact Number:
Email:
Signature:

1. Introduction and background

The Inuvialuit Community Economic Development Organization (ICEDO) is undertaking the Inuvialuit Reindeer Herd Initiative, a project supported by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada under the Canadian Agricultural Strategic Priorities Program (CASPP2-PCPSA2-4340). The purpose of the project is to develop a strategic plan to transition the Reindeer Herd Initiative from a community-based food security program into a self-sustaining, Indigenous-led agribusiness.

ICEDO is seeking proposals from qualified contractor(s) to complete the needs assessment and environmental/climate analysis work for the Inuvialuit Reindeer Herd Initiative.

2. Scope of work

The engagement consists of two components. Contractors may propose on both components as an integrated engagement or indicate their capacity to deliver one component only.

2.1 Component A — Baseline data collection and needs assessment

The contractor will evaluate the herd's current operational capacity, infrastructure and readiness to meet federal food safety standards and market demands and map its role within the local food-sharing economy (distribution of country food to households, elders and community events). Work includes:

- Baseline data collection on herd health, grazing conditions, land availability and processing infrastructure
- Assessment of workforce competencies and operational challenges: transportation, feed supply, predator control, veterinary access
- Gap analysis identifying priority investments and capacity gaps

Deliverable: Baseline data collection and gap analysis report.

2.2 Component B — Environmental and climate impact analysis

The contractor will assess environmental and climate conditions affecting herd operations in the Beaufort Delta region, to be integrated with the findings of Component A. Work includes:

- Analysis of land use pressures and biodiversity considerations relevant to herd grazing and range

- Assessment of shifting climate conditions in the Beaufort Delta and implications for herd health and operations
- Identification of climate-related risks and adaptation considerations for infrastructure and operational planning

Deliverable: Environmental and climate impact report.

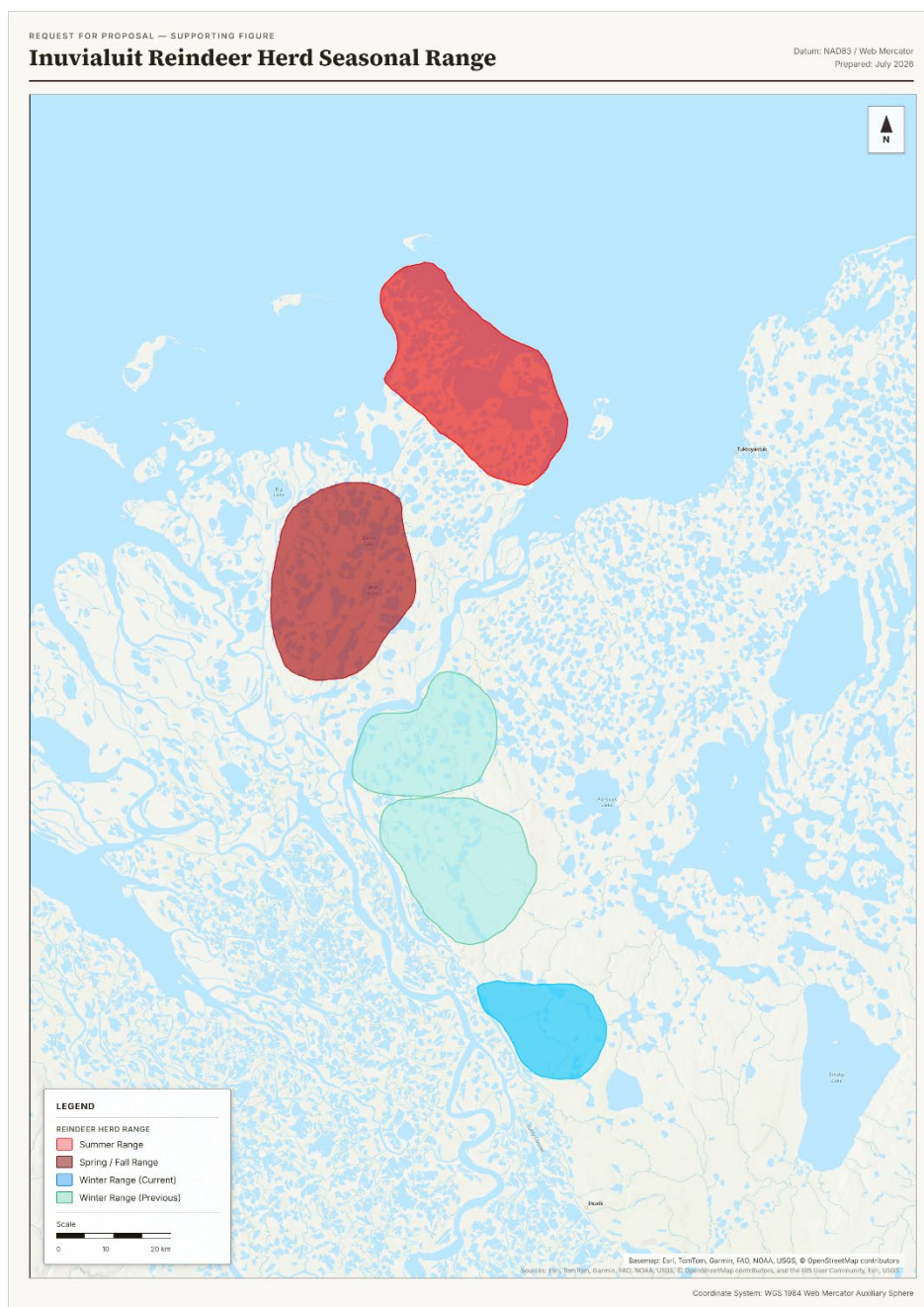


Figure 1. Reindeer land usage in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region

2.3 Engagement approach

Both components must be informed by direct engagement with the Inuvialuit community. The contractor is expected to work respectfully and collaboratively with ICEDO's governance committee, elders, herders and other knowledge holders, incorporating Inuvialuit knowledge and cultural protocols alongside technical and scientific data. Any interviews, on-the-land visits, or knowledge gathering must follow informed-consent practices consistent with ICEDO's knowledge capture framework.

3. Deliverables and timeline

The deliverables window under the funding agreement runs from November 1, 2026, to February 1, 2028. Proposed timelines should fit within this window; ICEDO will confirm final milestone dates with the successful contractor(s).

Deliverable	Component	Target Date
Draft baseline data collection and gap analysis report	A	2027-10-01
Draft environmental and climate impact report	B	2027-10-01
Community/governance committee review period	A & B	2027-11-01
Final baseline data collection and gap analysis report	A	2028-01-31
Final environmental and climate impact report	B	2028-01-31

All final reports must be delivered in a format suitable for incorporation into ICEDO's broader strategic planning documents and must be submitted with enough lead time to allow for certification within ICEDO's year-end and final reporting deadlines under the CASPP funding agreement. Reports including all data used & intellectual property belong to ICEDO.

4. Contractor qualifications

ICEDO is seeking contractors or teams with demonstrated experience in some or all the following:

- Agricultural, livestock or wildlife management needs assessments, ideally in northern or remote Indigenous community contexts
- Regulatory and food-safety compliance analysis, including familiarity with CFIA licensing and standards
- Environmental and climate impact assessment, particularly in Arctic ecosystems
- Working respectfully and effectively with Indigenous communities, elders and knowledge holders, including experience applying consent practices
- Report writing and presentation of technical findings for both technical and community audiences

Preference may be given to proposals that include Inuvialuit personnel or subcontractors, or that include a plan for meaningful knowledge transfer to the community.

5. Proposal submission requirements

Proposals should be concise and include:

- A cover letter identifying the contractor/team and which component(s) are being proposed on
- A technical approach and methodology for each proposed component
- A proposed work plan and timeline aligned to Section 3
- Team composition, relevant qualifications and CVs of key personnel. Identify any & all subcontractors within the team.
- At least two references from comparable past engagements
- A detailed cost proposal, broken down as described in Exhibit A, with any contractor travel itemized within the total rather than as a separate budget line
- Confirmation of ability to travel to and work within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, including Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk.

6. Evaluation criteria

Criterion
1. Relevant technical experience and qualifications
2. Quality and clarity of proposed methodology
3. Experience working with Inuvialuit/northern communities
4. Realistic timeline and work plan
5. Value for money / cost

Exhibit A – Commercial pricing table

Deliverable	Component	Proposed cost	Proposed completion date
Draft baseline data collection and gap analysis report	A		
Draft environmental and climate impact report	B		
Community/governance committee review period	A & B		
Final baseline data collection and gap analysis report	A		
Final environmental and climate impact report	B		
Total			

In addition to providing the overall pricing summary above. Please provide a detailed list of unit rates both for time and materials by description required to complete this project.