



*CANADIAN INTERAGENCY FOREST FIRE CENTRE INC.
CENTRE INTERSERVICES DES FEUX DE FORÊT DU CANADA INC.*

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Impact Analysis and Performance Evaluation Services
for the Pan-Canadian Aerial Wildfire Capacity Initiative

March 4, 2026

Definitions

- Agencies** refers to the federal, provincial, and territorial ministries or departments mandated with wildland fire response within their respective jurisdictions
- CIFFC** means the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre Inc.
- KPI** means key performance indicator
- P/T** means Provinces and Territories
- Proponent** means anyone submitting a response to this RFP

Request for Proposals (RFP)

Impact Analysis and Performance Evaluation Services for the Pan-Canadian Aerial Wildfire Capacity Initiative

Issue Date:

- March 04, 2026

Enquiry Deadline:

- 4:00 PM Central Time on March 26, 2026

Closing Date and Time:

- 4:00 PM Central Time on April 01, 2026
- Proposals received after the closing date and time may be rejected.

Submission Process

Submissions must be submitted via:

- MERX digital submission system; OR
- Email submission to both:
 - procurement@ciffc.ca
 - admin@ciffc.ca

Official Contact

Mike McCulley
Director of Operations
Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC)
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1. OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW

1.1 Invitation and Summary of Opportunity

The Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC) invites proposals from qualified consultants or consulting teams to conduct a five-year lifecycle Impact Analysis and Performance Evaluation of the:

Pan-Canadian Aerial Wildfire Capacity Initiative

This initiative is funded through a federal contribution agreement and supports the leasing, deployment, coordination, and performance measurement of Pan-Canadian coordinated aerial firefighting resources to enhance wildfire response capacity across Canada.

The successful Proponent will:

- Develop and implement an impact evaluation framework;
- Conduct comprehensive reviews following each wildfire season in order to inform the program for the following year;
- Produce a final summary impact analysis to inform future programs.

1.2 Organizational Overview

CIFFC is a national not-for-profit organization responsible for coordinating wildfire resource sharing across provincial, territorial, and federal wildfire agencies in Canada, as well as international partners.

The Pan-Canadian Aerial Wildfire Capacity Initiative is designed to:

- Increase Pan-Canadian aerial surge capacity;
- Address provincial and territorial resource gaps;
- Support rapid aircraft deployment;
- Strengthen Pan-Canadian wildfire resilience through performance measurement and evidence-based program evolution.

1.3 Opportunity Scope

The Proponent will provide professional services to design, implement, and maintain a comprehensive lifecycle evaluation and impact measurement program aligned with:

- Contribution Agreement requirements;
- Approved project application commitments;
- Aircraft procurement and operational RFP performance expectations;
- CIFFC governance and reporting requirements.

1.4 Term of Contract

- Initial Contract Term: April 01, 2026 – March 31, 2027
- Extension Options: Up to four additional one-year extensions
- Maximum Contract Term: Five (5) years

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ENGAGEMENT

The Impact Analysis must assess effectiveness, efficiency, value-for-money, and Pan-Canadian wildfire resilience outcomes of the initiative, including but not limited to:

- Deployment performance
- Utilization metrics
- Cost efficiency
- Operational outcomes
- Provincial/territorial capacity enhancement
- Pan-Canadian coordination effectiveness
- Lessons learned and program optimization

3. SCOPE OF WORK

3.1 Development of Impact Evaluation Framework

The Contractor will:

1. Design a Performance Measurement and Evaluation Framework aligned with contribution agreement deliverables.
2. Establish baseline metrics and methodologies.
3. Identify measurable indicators including:

Deployment Metrics

- Response times based on alerts
- Aircraft readiness and availability
- Operational service days

Utilization Metrics

- Flight hours
- Mission types and volumes
- Deployment distribution across jurisdictions and relation to fire activity/load
- “Unable to fill” requests

Cost Metrics

- Cost per flight hour
- Cost efficiency relative to surge capacity gains
- Comparative market analysis

Operational Outcome Metrics

- Mission success indicators
- P/T agency satisfaction and feedback
- Incident outcome support metrics

Strategic Impact Metrics

- Increased Pan-Canadian surge capacity
- Reduced reliance on constrained commercial markets
- Improvements to interjurisdictional coordination
- Contributions to wildfire resilience

3.2 Data Collection and Methodology

The Contractor must:

- Develop data collection tools;
- Coordinate with CIFFC operational teams;
- Integrate quantitative and qualitative data sources;
- Conduct stakeholder interviews and surveys;
- Ensure methodological transparency and auditability.

3.3 Annual Impact Reporting

The Contractor will produce annual reports including:

- KPI performance analysis;
- Cost-benefit and value-for-money analysis;
- Program implementation effectiveness;
- Lessons learned and improvement recommendations;
- Risk and opportunity identification.

3.4 Comprehensive Reviews

Post Fire Season Reviews

A detailed evaluation of:

- Program implementation success;
- Aircraft procurement model effectiveness;
- Operational integration with P/T agencies;
- Recommendations for program adjustments.

Final Lifecycle Impact Review (2031)

A full program impact assessment including:

- Long-term Pan-Canadian capacity outcomes;
- Financial efficiency analysis;
- Strategic recommendations for future Pan-Canadian aviation investments;
- Recommendations for future similar investments.

3.5 Stakeholder Engagement

The Contractor must collaborate with:

- Provincial and territorial wildfire agencies;
- Federal partners;
- CIFFC governance committees;
- Industry partners;
- Operational aviation program staff.

3.6 Governance and Independence

The Contractor must operate independently from aircraft contractors and operational program delivery teams and comply with CIFFC conflict-of-interest standards.

4. DELIVERABLES

Deliverable	Timing
Evaluation Framework	Within 30 days of contract start
Annual Impact Reports	Annually (2026-2031) within 3 months post-season
Final Lifecycle Impact Report	September 2031
Quarterly Progress Briefings	Throughout contract

5. PROPONENT QUALIFICATIONS

Proponents must demonstrate:

- Experience evaluating large public safety or emergency management programs;
- Expertise in performance measurement frameworks;
- Experience in aviation, wildfire, or emergency response sectors (asset);
- Strong stakeholder engagement capabilities;
- Demonstrated analytical and reporting expertise.
- Experience in economic evaluation and efficiency reporting.

6. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Proposals must include:

Technical Proposal

- Methodology
- Work plan
- Evaluation framework approach
- Team qualifications
- Risk management approach

Project Team

- Key personnel resumes
- Roles and responsibilities
- Availability commitment

Pricing Proposal

- Annual cost breakdown
- Cost for annual reviews and final review
- Optional services pricing

References

- Minimum of three comparable project references.

7. EVALUATION CRITERIA

7.1 Mandatory Requirements

- Proposal completeness
- Conflict of interest disclosure
- Canadian contracting eligibility

7.2 Weighted Evaluation Criteria

Category	Weight
Technical Methodology	30%
Relevant Experience	25%
Project Team Qualifications	20%
Understanding of Wildfire / Aviation Context	10%
Pricing	15%

8. PROCUREMENT PROCESS

This RFP is a non-binding procurement process and does not create contractual obligations until execution of a final agreement.

CIFFC reserves the right to:

- Negotiate with one or more Proponents;
- Cancel or amend this RFP;
- Conduct interviews or demonstrations.

9. TIMELINE

Activity	Date
RFP Issued	March 04, 2026
Enquiry Deadline	March 26, 2026
Proposal Closing	April 01, 2026
Evaluation Period	April 03, 2026
Contract Award	April 06, 2026
Contract Start	April 2026

10. CONFIDENTIALITY AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

All evaluation outputs and reports will be the intellectual property of CIFFC and subject to contribution agreement reporting requirements.

11. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Proponents must disclose any real or perceived conflicts related to aviation suppliers, wildfire agencies, or CIFFC governance bodies.

12. GOVERNING LAW

This RFP shall be governed by the laws of Manitoba and the federal laws of Canada.