



RFP Questions for Interested Parties

August 20th, 2026

1. Municipal/Local Scope

Section 4 calls for a “comprehensive review and analysis across all Canadian federal, provincial/territorial and municipal/local jurisdictions.” Given the number and diversity of municipal and local authorities across Canada, could CIFFC clarify the intended scale and level of coverage for the municipal/local component of the review? In particular, does CIFFC envisage jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction coverage of municipal/local authorities, or would a purposeful representative sample within each province/territory, selected to reflect relevant WUI typologies, governance arrangements, fire-service models, and community characteristics, meet the intent of the RFP?

A purposeful representative sample within each province/territory meets expectations. The submission should explain the scope and sampling planned.

2. Indigenous Governments and Organizations

What level of review and engagement is expected with Indigenous governments, communities, fire organizations, and emergency management organizations? Should Indigenous jurisdictions be treated as a distinct jurisdictional stream within the scan, or primarily as partners within provincial/territorial and local WUI operating models?

Primarily as partners within provincial/territorial and local WUI operating models. The review should identify jurisdiction-specific nuances, including how provincial/territorial wildland fire agencies interface with Indigenous communities on and off reserve within the WUI, and any distinct governance or operational arrangements that exist.

3. International Scan

The RFP refers to CIFFC’s Strategic Action Plan priority for both a domestic and international environmental scan, and Appendix A identifies jurisdictions such as California, Australia, and Spain. Could CIFFC clarify the expected scope and level of effort for the international comparative review? Is this a formal project deliverable or supporting research for the governance and operational options analysis?

For this RFP the focus is the Canadian domestic landscape. A second RFP may be advertised to gather global information. Please disregard the reference to other international jurisdictions. A comparative review of international jurisdictions is not part of this RFP.

4. Depth of legislative and legal analysis

The RFP asks the proponent to examine authorities, liability frameworks, indemnification, and legislated responsibilities. Is CIFFC seeking a policy and jurisdictional analysis of legislation and authorities, or is formal legal interpretation/opinion expected? If legal opinion is required, should the project team include qualified legal counsel?

In the RFP, it is identified that the Proponent should have demonstrated EXPERIENCE in conducting complex jurisdictional reviews involving intergovernmental governance, authorities, liability frameworks and multi-stakeholder operating environments. Under Project Scope and Deliverables, there is no requirement indicated related to the review of liability frameworks or legislation policy. It asks for analysis of current state related to roles and responsibilities, governance, accountability etc. as well as identification of potential operational structures that can improve interagency cooperation.

It is up to the proponent to determine if they feel they need legal opinion on any of the items identified in the project scope.

5. Interview expectations and access

Does CIFFC have an anticipated number or range of interviews for Phase 2? Will CIFFC and the project task team identify and facilitate access to federal, provincial/territorial, municipal, Indigenous, Fire Marshal/Commissioner, and other stakeholders, or is stakeholder identification and recruitment expected to be undertaken entirely by the proponent?

Task team members will generally be available for interview and will facilitate (where possible) access as requested. However, interviews would need to reflect proper sampling to address the project requirements and factor in the impacts on budget based on the number of interviews necessary.

6. Resource inventory requirement

Appendix A refers to an “inventory of WUI human and equipment resources by province/territory.” Is a detailed quantitative resource inventory an expected deliverable, or is the intent to characterize resource types, capabilities, mobilization mechanisms, and terminology at a higher level?

The intent is to characterize resource types, capabilities, mobilization mechanisms and terminology at a higher level.

Please keep in mind, appendix A is a broad list of questions. This particular question relates to the sharing of resources and the existence of local standards for equipment and training. The list in appendix A was intended to provide some perspective on the range of questions that the task team members identified. It is a reference – not a check list of must answer questions.

7. Influence of forest ecosystems and fuel types requirement

Appendix A refers to the influence of forest ecosystems and fuel types “How do differences in forest ecosystems, fuel types, and WUI community configurations (interface, intermix, and rural/remote communities) influence wildfire risk...”. When considering forest ecosystems will the project need to categorize ecosystems through a broad approach (Boreal, Temperate Rainforest, Mixed/Broadleaf, Montane/Subalpine) or more granular categorization such as the Canadian Forest Service ecozones (~15 zones)? Should structural, property attachments, and infrastructure fuels be included with the standard wildland fuel categories?

The emphasis should be on identifying common approaches and operational frameworks within the WUI environment rather than comparing differences in fuels, ecosystems, or fire regimes.

However, you might consider identifying those forest ecosystems that require significantly different approaches in the WUI.

As noted above, appendix A is a broad list of questions. The list in appendix A was intended to provide some perspective on the range of questions that the task team members identified. It is a reference – not a check list of must answer questions.

8. Preliminary report scope

Given the project start date of September 14 and preliminary report deadline of November 10, could CIFFC clarify what is expected to be complete at the preliminary report stage? For example, is the expectation a completed domestic current-state scan, preliminary findings and gaps, or a draft of the full report including emerging options?

The expectation is for phase 1 completion and a substantial check-in with the task team to clarify phase 2. November 10 is when CIFFC would expect phase 1 to be completed.

9. Governance/framework options – level of development

For the Governance and Operational Options Analysis, how developed does CIFFC expect the options to be? For example, should options include proposed roles and accountabilities, governance structures, legislative implications, implementation requirements, indicative costs, and transition pathways, or is a higher-level strategic options analysis sufficient?

Open to hearing about what the proponent believes can be accomplished. In part, the data / responses will drive the potential for options. At a minimum, a list of options for consideration and further analysis that would address solutions to key gaps that were identified in the analysis of current state.

10. Fire Marshal / Fire Commissioner authority

Appendix A raises specific questions regarding the legislated authority of Fire Marshals and Fire Commissioners, including their oversight of structural firefighters during declared provincial/territorial states of emergency and their potential role in interprovincial or interjurisdictional deployments. Could CIFFC clarify whether a comparative review of Fire Marshal/Commissioner statutory authorities across jurisdictions is an expected component of the project scope, and to what level of detail CIFFC expects the proponent to assess differences in authority, accountability, and operational practice?

An in-depth comparative review of Fire Marshal and Fire Commissioner governance structures is not required. The focus should be on understanding their current role in WUI incidents across P/Ts, how existing authorities support or constrain effective WUI operations, and whether any governance-related barriers exist. If it is found that the current governance structure hinders WUI response, coordination, or interjurisdictional deployment, potential options for consideration should be identified.

11. Project task team composition and role

The RFP notes that a multidisciplinary, whole-of-society task team comprising representatives from provincial and territorial wildland fire agencies, municipal fire services, and Indigenous fire organizations will provide perspective, guidance, and subject matter expertise throughout the project. Could CIFFC provide additional information on the anticipated composition of the task team, including the

organizations or stakeholder groups represented, and clarify the role the task team is expected to play in defining scope, facilitating stakeholder access, validating findings, and reviewing project deliverables?

Yes, a list of the task team members will be supplied. For now, a list of the represented organizations will be included at the bottom of this document. Task team members will be available for one-on-one interviews, as appropriate, during the research phase. They may also support introductions to additional subject matter experts and stakeholders and help facilitate engagement with relevant organizations and jurisdictions where needed.

12. RFP date discrepancy.

The cover page is dated July 23, 2026, while the Schedule of Events identifies the RFP Issue Date as August 6, 2026. Please confirm that August 6, 2026 is the operative issue date for procurement purposes.

The date the RFP was written at CIFFC is the date on the cover page. It is internal and has no bearing on the call for proposals. August 6 is the date the RFP issue date.

13. Proposal Page Limit

The RFP states that submissions should not exceed 10 pages and also requires a complete resume outlining the Participant's experience, qualifications, and proposed project team. Could CIFFC please confirm whether the 10-page limit applies to the core proposal only, with team CVs/resumes provided as appendices outside the page limit? Please also confirm whether the cover letter, references, and pricing schedule are included within or excluded from the 10-page limit.

The team CV can be an appendix. The team CV and cover page can be excluded from the 10 page limit. The references and pricing are part of the 10 pages.

14. International Environmental Scan

The RFP references both a domestic and international environmental scan, and Appendix A also identifies a few international jurisdictions that may be worth exploring. Is there a particular scope or level of detail CIFFC is looking for on the international side?

CIFFC will issue a follow-up RFP to scan the international environment. This RFP is only for Canada. We obviously missed removing some of the references to international.

15. Stakeholder Interviews and Validation

Does CIFFC have an approximate number of interviews or engagement sessions in mind, or are you looking for proponents to recommend what we feel would be appropriate as part of our approach?

See question 5.

16. 10-Page Limit and Resumes

I just wanted to confirm whether the complete team resumes are included in the 10-page limit, or if they can be included separately as appendices?

See question 13.

17. Jurisdiction Expectations

What are CIFFC's expectations regarding the number of jurisdictions to include in the review (e.g., are you expecting all Provinces and Territories, with the possible exemption of Nunavut; or would a sample of jurisdictions, including those operating well established WUI programs, be acceptable)?

CIFFC is expecting a review of all the Province, Yukon, NWT and including Nunavut.

18. Representative Sample

As many WUI programs are designed and operated at the local/municipal government level, what are your expectations with regards to researching (including interviewing) a sample of sub-Provincial/Territorial programs?

See questions 5 and 15. CIFFC expects the proponent to explain the scope of interviews needed to complete the project.

19. Budget Estimate

Given that answers on the above two questions may greatly affect the scope of the research, can you provide an estimate of the budget for the review?

CIFFC expects the proponent to explain in their proposal an approach and provide a price based on the level of effort required.

20. Contact List Provision

Will CIFFC provide an updated contact list of key WUI program contacts within each of the Canadian jurisdictions?

There isn't a network of WUI program contacts in Canada. See question 11.

21. Interviewee Selection

Does CIFFC has specific individuals in mind to include for interviews from each jurisdiction, or will the successful proponent be responsible for proponent find and select their own interviewees?

See question 11.

22. Page Count

Does the 10-page limit include the cover page, table of contents and cover letter?

See question 13.

23. Task team engagement

The RFP states that a multi-disciplinary task team of provincial and territorial wildland fire agencies, municipal fire services and Indigenous fire organizations will provide perspective and guidance to the successful Participant throughout the project. What engagement does CIFFC anticipate between the successful Participant and the task team, in what mode, and at what cadence?

The task team meets monthly. CIFFC anticipates most task team members will be available for an interview and may provide access to affiliated networks depending on the proponents' needs.

24. Coverage expectations

Does CIFFC have a view on the expected number of interviews in Phase 2, and on the breadth of municipal and Indigenous representation to be reflected in the scan? This is the largest single driver of the fixed fee and we would rather price it against your expectation than our assumption. It is better if you explain to us the depth and scope of interviews needed to better understand the WUI wildfire response, roles and accountabilities. Your approach is what we are interested in.

See question 2.

25. International Comparison

Section 4 scopes a Domestic Jurisdictional Scan, while the 2026/27 Strategic Action Plan priority is described as a domestic and international environmental scan, and Appendix A asks what Canada can learn from jurisdictions further ahead on WUI conflagration. Should the international comparison be treated as within the scope of this project, or as separate work?

An international comparison should not be included in the proponent's proposal. See question 3.

26. RMC

The pricing table in Section 5 refers to a final presentation to RMC. The Prevention and Mitigation Action Plan refers to the CIFFC Management Committee and the Prevention and Mitigation Committee (PMC). Could you confirm which body is intended, and its decision horizon following the 19 February final report?

Yes, we acknowledge that the references to RMC and other CIFFC committees may appear inconsistent. The specific committee that will receive the final presentation has not yet been determined and may be confirmed as the project progresses. The key requirement is that the successful proponent be prepared to present the final findings and recommendations to a senior CIFFC committee following submission of the final report. The format, audience, and scheduling details for this presentation will be confirmed at a later date.

27. Language

Bilingual capability is listed as an asset. Is French-language interview capability expected for engagement in Quebec and other francophone jurisdictions, or will CIFFC support translation?

Bilingual capability is listed as an asset rather than a requirement. Proponents should describe how they intend to effectively engage French-speaking stakeholders in Quebec and other francophone jurisdictions, as applicable to their proposed methodology. CIFFC will not provide translation or interpretation services.

28. Prior and parallel work

Does CIFFC consider its published workshop reports and the 2026–2031 Prevention and Mitigation Action Plan to be inputs to the scan? Is there prior or parallel work — within CIFFC or at the CCFM — that this project is expected to build on rather than duplicate?

This work will stand on its own and is distinct from other projects.



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Task Team Organizations
Canadian Forest Service
Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre
Government of Quebec
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
BC Wildfire Service
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
High River Fire Department
County of Vermilion River Fire Department
Banff Fire Department
Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs
Alberta Emergency Management Agency
Council of Canadian Fire Marshalls and Fire Commissioners
Civic Good