



NOURISH
The future of food
in health care.

La Fondation
McConnell
Foundation

Opportunity: Legal/Procurement Researcher Fixed Fee Contract

Introduction:

Nourish is building a future where the impact of food on health is understood and valued. We have assembled influencers from across healthcare who want to work collaboratively to develop the strategies, practices, and policies that build a food culture that nourishes patients, staff, and communities, for generations to come. We also undertake strategic communications around food and health; host targeted convening's to incite policy change; and work to build sustainable value chains.

Nourish is a collaboration led by the McConnell Foundation. The national cohort of health innovators is advancing five national collaborative projects. This opportunity relates to one of five Nourish cohort collaborative projects: building a culture of values-based procurement through [Creation of National RFP Food Models](#).

National Food RFP Project:

Healthcare food procurement can be characterized by fragmented and regionalized efforts to build meaningful procurement tools. Provincial, federal and international acts and agreements can be ambiguous and encourage price only shopping. This ambiguous policy context is a disincentive to the creation of criteria and measures for empowered, values-based procurement of healthy, sustainable, and local foods. These challenges are compounded by limited food budgets and a culture in which food is secondary to healthcare. There is untapped potential for healthcare food purchasers to build health and wealth in their communities, and to support the health of their patients and residents through the food choices they make. Procurement is critical to advance the '*food is health*' agenda.

The project sets out to develop and test approaches to and specific language for more responsible procurement of healthy, sustainable and tasty meals for health care. Creating and testing these procurement resources aims to support the sector to break out of the current cost-driven process that defines healthcare food purchasing. The goal of the project is to harness healthcare purchasing power and build a culture of more values-based healthcare food purchasing. Specifically, the project team, with the support of a consultant, will collect, test, and develop clear contract language for values-based procurement of local sustainable foods. This language will be tested at several health care sites across Canada, refined, and then disseminated with the aim of broad adoption.

Detailed Scope of Work:

Using various methodologies and sources, the successful consultant will undertake a national and international scan to seek recent and relevant data to present a comprehensive understanding and landscape for best in-class sustainable language in public procurement.

This scan should include, but not be limited to:

- Reviewing language available through public RFP's
- Reaching out to various education and healthcare institutions, group purchasing organizations to request samples of the language used across the country and international models
- Identifying suitable parties and conducting interviews
- Reviewing literature and published papers on this topic

Once the scan has been completed, the consultant will work with a lawyer to organize and interpret the data into a detailed report and presentation with recommendations for the project members. This presentation should include drafts and opportunities for crafting scalable sustainability language, clarifying the various policies and trade agreements in place that may present barriers to language on sustainability, and recommendations for areas of sustainability where there are opportunities to include such desires in contract language.

Qualifications

Required skills and qualifications:

- Background in sustainability and knowledge of progressive, values-based procurement practices
- Understanding of Canadian public procurement, principles, practices and procurement process
- Understanding of the impact of various policies and agreements, including but not limited to CFTA, CETA, NAFTA and applicable Provincial Legislations
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills with full English fluency
- Creative, curious, problem-solving, and collaborative attitude and working style
- Independently-motivated worker and thinker
- Extremely detail-oriented
- Proven skills with MS Office software programs (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Strong diplomacy and ability to facilitate decision-making and consensus within groups
- Experience managing networks of diverse partners
- Outstanding ability to exercise judgment at all times and proven trustworthiness

Contract term

This is anticipated to be a short-term, fixed fee contract, ending upon completion all deliverables. The selected applicant should be available to start work immediately. The expected duration will be approx. 4 months.

Budget

The fixed fee contract will have a maximum budget of \$6,500, inclusive of all expenses and disbursements.

Communications

It is expected the person will e-connect at least weekly with key Nourish staff and various RFP project team members. In addition, the person will participate in monthly scheduled web meetings, connect directly with various Nourish cohort members and any others who can contribute to the project.

The person must have or have access to a computer utilizing various web communications tools and document sharing capabilities.

Deliverables

Deliverables will include:

- Weekly email progress updates
- Upon completion, provide to Nourish an electronic file containing research findings of all pertinent national & international food procurement models found, applicable food procurement white papers and other supporting research advancing public food procurement
- Mid contract summary report
- Draft & final report

To apply, submit the following as a single PDF by March 22, 2018:

- Scope of work describing your proposed process and timelines.
- Cover letter describing the experience that you would bring to this project.
- CV with three references.

Submissions and Questions are to be directed to:

Hayley Lapalme

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Nourish Program Designer/Facilitator | Conceptrice/Animatrice du Programme

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