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## Request for Proposals

### Rapid Assessment of Mental Health Services

Nishnawbe Aski Nation (known as Grand Council Treaty No. 9 until 1983) was established in 1973. NAN represents the legitimate, socioeconomic, and political aspirations of its First Nation members of Northern Ontario to all levels of government in order to allow local self-determination while establishing spiritual, cultural, social, and economic independence.

In 1977, Grand Council Treaty No. 9 made a public declaration of the rights and principles of Nishnawbe Aski. NAN's objectives are:

- Implementing advocacy and policy directives from NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly
- Advocating to improve the quality of life for the people in areas of education, lands and resources, health, governance, and justice
- Improving the awareness and sustainability of traditions, culture, and language of the people through unity and nationhood
- Developing and implementing policies which reflect the aspirations and betterment of the people
- Developing strong partnerships with other organizations.

NAN is a political territorial organization representing 49 First Nation communities within northern Ontario with the total population of membership (on and off reserve) estimated around 45,000 people. These communities are grouped by Tribal Council (Windigo First Nations Council, Wabun Tribal Council, Shibogama First Nations Council, Mushkegowuk Council, Matawa First Nations, Keewaytinook Okimakanak, and Independent First Nations Alliance) according to region. Six of the 49 communities are not affiliated with a specific Tribal Council.

NAN territory encompasses James Bay Treaty No. 9 and Ontario's portion of Treaty No. 5, and has a total land-mass covering two-thirds of the province of Ontario spanning 210,000 square miles. The people traditionally speak four languages: Ojibwe in the west, Ojibway in the central-south area, and Cree and Algonquin in the east.

NAN continues to work to improve the quality of life for the Nishnawbe Aski territory. Through existing partnerships and agreements with Treaty partners (governments of Canada and Ontario), NAN continues to advocate on behalf of the communities it represents for self-determination with functioning self-government

### Rapid Assessment of Mental Health Services

Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Chiefs in Assembly have recognized that there is an additions epidemic in NAN Territory based on the states of emergency that have been declared by NAN First Nations. The additions epidemic is linked to the lack of access to mental health services required to address the intergenerational trauma, grief, and loss experience by NAN community members.

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NAN is seeking a qualified, reputable and experienced company/corporation/individual to provide consultancy services for a Rapid Assessment of Mental Health Services that will;

- Review and report on current mental Health strategies used in the Region
- Review current policy regarding community crisis and resources for response
- Map current initiatives and services that address Mental Health and Suicide Prevention
- Identify opportunities for communities to seek resources/tools/workshops
- Create a framework for a NAN Strategy to identify goals and objectives to be presented and discussed at the NAN Mental Health Summit
- Create a tool book for community immediate needs identification
- Create well being workshops communities can use as templates

The successful applicant will also be asked to;

- Attend the mental health Summit July 12-14 2022 in Thunder Bay to do an evaluation of the summit, complete framework and write report on meeting.
- Meet with stakeholders as required to gather information leading up to the meeting
- Meet with NAN Staff, and/or Summit Facilitator to review progress and edits of report
- Write a report that will be shared at the Mental Health Summit July 12-14, 2022

The objective of the Mental Health Summit is to

1. Create a Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Strategy with Objectives for Community, Service Providers and Nishnawbe Aski Nation
2. Identify Crisis response mechanisms, policy and gaps

## **Selection Process**

Proposals will be chosen based on the following:

- Overall scope and experience.
- Proven ability and experience in working collaboratively with First Nation communities and supporting community-led, asset-based approaches.
- Proven ability to generate user-friendly reports and materials that accurately capture the priorities and vision of the First Nation communities.
- Confirmation of capability of delivering the services described in the RFP.
- Lowest price will not necessarily be accepted.

## Submission Requirements

In your proposal, please include the following:

- Qualifications in developing strategic plans/frameworks in collaboration with First Nations
- The methodology you would use to meet the deliverables
- A detailed budget and projected timelines to complete specific tasks
- Examples of related work you have led or been involved in.
- Three references who can speak to your work.

Proposals are to be sent electronically by closing time: **June 24, 2022, EST 4:00 p.m.** to Ian Beardy Human Resources @ [ibeardy@nan.ca](mailto:ibeardy@nan.ca)

Thank you for your interest. All applications will be reviewed; however, only successful applicants will be contacted.

