



Request for Proposals

For an Indigenous Economic Impact Analysis

Indigenous Economic Impact Analysis

Introduction

The Indigenous Manufacturing and Contracting Network (IMCN) is a nonprofit organization. We are membership-based and open to both Indigenous and non-Indigenous business owners in the manufacturing and contracting sectors. Our mission is to reduce economic inequity through the advancement of education, employment, investment, and partnership for Indigenous entrepreneurs and communities.

Executive Summary

IMCN invites qualified Indigenous consultants to undertake an Indigenous Economic Impact Analysis. This analysis will evaluate the direct, indirect, and induced economic impacts of Indigenous participation in the industrial economy. Outcomes will inform policy, investment, and partnership strategies, and will be shared with stakeholders across Canada.

The selected proponent will be expected to incorporate a socio-economic lens into the analysis. This includes evaluating employment equity, income gaps, community well-being indicators, and social impacts such as improved health, education, and reduced reliance on social programs as a result of Indigenous economic participation.

Objective

The purpose of this RFP is to select a bidder who will provide high levels of professionalism, integrity, and confidentiality while conducting research for an Indigenous Economic Impact Analysis. This analysis will forecast:

- Indigenous Employment Growth and Economic Impacts
- Indirect Economic Benefits from Resource and Infrastructure Expansion
- Income Levels for Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Business Owners
- Increased Investments in Indigenous Businesses
- Increased Tax Revenues for All Levels of Government
- Reduced Strain on Social Systems Due to Higher Employment Participation
- Access to Capital and Investment
- Expected Returns from Project Development
- Impacts on GDP, Productivity, and Competitiveness
- Ownership and Participation in Major Projects
- Fostering Partnerships and Collaboration
- Promoting Indigenous Entrepreneurship and Innovation

All contracted work must align with IMCN's three strategic goals:

1. **Support:** Maintain stable funding and expand IMCN's role as a convener and advocate for equitable access to business development, employment, and training opportunities for Indigenous Peoples and communities.
2. **Connect:** Increase engagement with existing and potential membership through in-person initiatives and enhance online platforms.
3. **Build:** Collect and develop resources for professional and business development.

Project Duration: *November 7, 2025 – March 16, 2026.*

Similar to economic assessments undertaken by industry associations such as SIMSA, this analysis will provide data-driven evidence of the value of local Indigenous procurement, business growth, and industrial participation in Saskatchewan's economy and Canada as a whole.

Background

Economic reconciliation in Canada reflects Indigenous peoples taking an active role in shaping the country's future. While there has been progress, disparities persist, particularly in employment, income, and labor force participation.

The 2021 Community Well-Being Index highlights these gaps, even with federal funding in place. Indigenous communities have emphasized the importance of leading efforts to advance economic self-determination and resource stewardship.

This proposal aims to enhance economic empowerment and reconciliation for Indigenous peoples across Canada.

- Analyze the socio-economic impacts of Indigenous participation in the manufacturing and contracting sectors, including effects on community well-being, intergenerational wealth transfer, and social determinants of health.
- Include comparative statistics and benchmarks across provinces (e.g., Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, and Ontario) to assess regional strengths, gaps, and trends in Indigenous economic inclusion.
- Report on Indigenous employment, Indigenous-owned business activity, Indigenous procurement levels, labour income, and tax contributions, like the SIMSA economic footprint methodology.
- Apply an input-output model or other quantitative approaches to calculate direct, indirect, and induced impacts, and express findings in terms of GDP, jobs, labour income, and tax revenue.
- Provide baseline and forecast data for key indicators over a 5- to 10-year horizon.

Scope of Work

The RFP calls for an economic impact analysis with focus areas including:

1. Business Development and Labour Market Participation

- Access to capital
- Business support services
- Indigenous procurement policies
- Employment improvements

2. Indigenous Participation in Major Economic Projects

- Consultation and consent processes
- Revenue sharing
- Business partnerships
- Workforce training

The analysis should:

- Provide a national overview & include statistics from all provinces
- Identify requirements for Indigenous engagement in resource/infrastructure development
- Recommend investments in training
- Propose improved access to capital

Forecasted Outcomes:

- Indigenous employment growth
- Income comparisons (Indigenous vs. non-Indigenous business owners)
- Tax revenue increases
- Indirect benefits to the Canadian economy
- Impact on GDP, productivity, and competitiveness

Deliverables

In addition to standard reporting, the final deliverables should include:

- A statistical dashboard summarizing Indigenous economic contributions.
- Infographics or visual summaries comparing economic footprints under different procurement scenarios (e.g., 100% local Indigenous vs. out-of-province suppliers).
- A short policy brief to support recommendations for government or industry partners.
- Final reports, dashboards, and infographics intended for public release must be accessible and meet AODA compliance (e.g. PDFs, alt text, readable formats).
- Presentation of the report with IMCN during a “Launch Event”.

- Media/Communication plan for coordination and response to inquiries along with IMCN Leadership.
- The final report will draw upon a similar methodology used in the:
 - SIMSA Economic Footprint Study. See: [SIMSA-Economic-Impact-Report-Sep-6-Final.pdf](#)
 - CEDC – Indigenous Impact Analysis of Thunder Bay, January 24, 2025 <https://indigenousengagement.ca/the-ice-team/michael-fox/>
 - CCIB studies. <https://www.ccib.ca/research/publications/>

Contract Conditions

- All final deliverables will be the sole property of IMCN
- The consultant may not share, publish, or present any content or results derived from this engagement without prior written authorization from IMCN
- Disputes arising under this contract will be resolved through mediation or arbitration in Saskatchewan, unless otherwise agreed upon
- The successful proponent must maintain general liability insurance coverage of \$2,000,000 and provide proof upon request.

Eligibility and Conflict of Interest Declaration

- The proponent is legally eligible to work in Canada
- The proponent declares no actual or perceived conflict of interest in relation to this work. Any potential conflicts must be disclosed

Policy and Legislative Considerations

- Access to Capital: Overcome regulatory and legal barriers
- Governance Capacity: Improve Indigenous government support
- Labour Supports: Build inclusive Indigenous labour markets

The applicant must be autonomous but will receive support from IMCN.

Data Governance and OCAP® Principles

All activities conducted under this Request for Proposals (RFP) must align with the principles of **Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession (OCAP®)**. These principles reflect First Nations' rights to govern how information about their communities is collected, protected, used, and shared.

Ownership: Indigenous communities collectively own information about their peoples, cultures, and knowledge systems. Any data or insights arising from this project are considered the property of the Indigenous communities involved.

Control: Indigenous peoples must have full control over all research and information management processes that impact them. This includes the design, execution, analysis, interpretation, and dissemination of the findings.

Access: Indigenous communities must have ongoing access to the data and information that concerns them, regardless of who collects or holds the data.

Possession: Physical control or custody of data rests with the community, ensuring the ability to assert and protect ownership rights.

Proponents must explicitly demonstrate how their workplan will respect and incorporate OCAP® principles, including:

- Community engagement and consent processes
- Data collection, storage, and access protocols
- Shared decision-making and validation of findings with Indigenous partners
- Transfer and long-term stewardship of data by communities
- Proponents are encouraged to include a short narrative or past project example that demonstrates their understanding and application of OCAP® principles

Failure to address OCAP® compliance may result in disqualification.

For further guidance, applicants are encouraged to consult the First Nations Information Governance Centre (FNIGC): www.fnigc.ca.

Milestone Timeline:

Milestone	Date
RFP Issued	October 6, 2025
Deadline for Questions from Applicants	October 20, 2025
Final Response to Questions	October 23, 2025
RFP Submission Due Date	October 27, 2025
Expected Award Date	November 7, 2025
Final Report presented to IMCN Board	March 16, 2026
Launch Event	First week of April with Mining Week

Note: IMCN reserves the right to adjust dates and will communicate any changes

Proposal Submission Instructions

Required Information:

1. Business Name and Address
2. Proposal Summary (background, contents, exceptions)
3. Qualifications, experience, and capabilities
4. Resource plan (team members, roles)
5. Timeline and methodology

- *Project Timeline:* A clear schedule with major phases, milestones, and deliverables from project initiation through to final reporting and presentation.
- *Research Methodology:* A comprehensive description of the proposed research design, data sources, and analytical techniques (e.g., input-output modelling, benchmarking, socio-economic indicators).
- *Community and Stakeholder Engagement:* How Indigenous communities, businesses, Governments, and other stakeholders will be meaningfully engaged in the research process.
- *Data Governance:* How the work will align with OCAP® principles, including data collection, management, and validation processes.
- *Risk Management:* Identification of potential risks or challenges to project delivery, and strategies for mitigating them.

6. Cost breakdown

7. Three (3) client references (name, title, contact info)

Proposal Submission Instructions

- Subject Line: “Proposal Submission – Indigenous Economic Impact Analysis”
- Proponents are expected to explain how their work will build capacity within IMCN and Indigenous communities (ex. Knowledge transfer, training IMCN staff to use data dashboards, documentation or methodology for future studies).
- Maximum of fifteen (15) pages (excluding appendices)
- Submit in PDF format only
- One single file is preferred
- Proponents are encouraged to request a confirmation of receipt via email

Submission Deadline: All responses must be received by **October 27, 2025, at 5:00 PM.**

Proposals must remain valid for a minimum of 60 days following the submission deadline.

Submit Proposals to:

Indigenous Manufacturing and Contracting Network - IMCN Board of Directors
 40 – 214 Joseph Okemasis Drive
 Saskatoon, SK S7N 1B1
 Tel: (306) 270-8095
 Email: info@imcn.ca

Rights of IMCN

IMCN reserves the right to:

- Reject any or all proposals
- Negotiate with one or more bidders
- Accept any proposal in whole or in part
- Modify or reissue the RFP

- Award multiple contracts
- Verify all submitted information
- Award follow-up contracts without competition

Evaluation Criteria

- A minimum total score of 60/100 is required for further consideration
- Shortlisted proponents may be invited to an interview or presentation round

Criterion	Points
Overall Experience and Results Assess the proposer's relevant experience and track record in delivering similar projects. Considers the quality of past outcomes, references, and demonstrated ability to achieve successful results. <i>Ex: Has the proponent successfully completed comparable projects? Are their outcomes aligned with the expectations of this opportunity?</i>	20
Budget and Cost Effectiveness Evaluates the proposed budget in terms of clarity, realism, and overall value for money. Consideration is given to how well the budget aligns with project goals and demonstrates efficient use of resources. Separate line items for data collection, analysis, engagement, travel, communications, etc. Optional: Indicate whether IMCN will provide in-kind support (ex: Outreach to members, convening focus groups). <i>Ex: Does the proposal offer a clear and reasonable budget that delivers strong value relative to the project scope?</i>	20
Terms and Conditions Examines the proponent's acceptance of standard terms and any proposed changes. Also reviews timelines, deliverables, warranties, or other conditions that could impact delivery or risk. <i>Ex: Are the proposed terms acceptable and aligned with the project's requirements and risk tolerance?</i>	10
Indigenous Organization / Individual Prioritizes Indigenous participation, leadership, and ownership. Preference is given to Indigenous-led organizations or individuals, or those demonstrating meaningful partnerships with Indigenous communities. <i>Ex: Is the proponent Indigenous-owned or led? Does the proposal reflect Indigenous values, participation, or partnership?</i>	25
Strategic Planning Assesses the strength and clarity of the proposed plan to achieve objectives. Includes consideration of timeline, milestones, risk management, stakeholder engagement, and alignment with broader goals. <i>Ex: Does the proposal include a well-structured, achievable plan with clearly defined steps and outcomes?</i>	25
Total	100

Provisions

Price:

All bids must include a firm, fixed price. This must cover administrative fees, travel, materials, and printing.

Confidentiality:

All proposals will be kept confidential and used solely for selection purposes.

For additional information, please contact IMCN with the details provided above.