

COLLEGE OF
REGISTERED NURSES
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Developing a Regulatory Philosophy and Framework
for the College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia

Closing Date

February 18, 2011

1600 hours (PST)

Submit proposals electronically to:

B. Christine Penney
Director, Policy and Quality Assurance
penney@crnbc.ca

BACKGROUND

The College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia (CRNBC) is the regulatory body for registered nurses and nurse practitioners in British Columbia. CRNBC receives its authority from the Government of B.C. through the Health Professions Act. Anyone who wants to practise nursing in British Columbia and use the title “registered nurse” or “licensed graduate nurse” or “nurse practitioner” must be registered with CRNBC.

CRNBC’s legal obligation is to protect the public through the regulation of registered nurses and nurse practitioners. The College meets this obligation in three ways:

- by setting requirements for initial registration and establishing minimum standards by which registered nurses must practise;
- by supporting registered nurses to meet these standards; and
- by acting if these standards are not met.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this RFP is to identify a qualified consultant to develop of a draft regulatory philosophy and framework for CRNBC. Project deliverables include:

- an analysis of the literature,
- consultation with key stakeholders, and
- development of a draft regulatory philosophy and framework for approval by the CRNBC Board.

RATIONALE

One of the goals of CRNBC’s strategic plan is “Regulatory approaches are appropriate, effective and support competent and ethical nursing practice.” This goal includes the following objective:

A regulatory philosophy and framework are defined giving consideration to reduction and management of risk and prevention of harm across all practice domains.

We envision this to be a philosophical narrative and framework that will guide decision-making and provide rationale for programs and services offered by CRNBC within its legislative scope. The philosophy and framework support underlying beliefs associated with decisions made by the College and will inform decision-making, not prescribe decisions.

PROPOSED INITIAL QUESTIONS FOR RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

1. What approaches to health profession regulation are described in the literature or espoused by other regulatory organizations?
2. Where on the continuum of regulation is CRNBC?
3. What approaches to regulation might be acceptable for CRNBC within its mandate under the Health Professions Act? Consider also the current political and economic climate in the province.
4. What are “best practice” approaches to regulation in Canada and internationally? Is there an optimal model for professional regulation? How is success measured for this model?
5. What is the foundation for regulation?
 - The unacceptable practice of a minority of registrants, or
 - The good or excellent practice of the majority of registrants, or
 - Other
6. What outcomes do the various regulatory approaches aim to achieve? For the public? For registrants?
7. What do key stakeholders think about the various approaches to regulations? What are their expectations regarding regulation? Key stakeholders include the CRNBC Board, public advocacy groups, government, registrants, schools of nursing, employers, regulatory colleges, CRNBC staff and others.
8. What trends and issues will drive the future of health professions regulation?

DELIVERABLES

1. Literature review to determine the existing evidence on this topic. This review will comprise national and international literature, including grey literature.
2. Focus group or interview questions for engaging key stakeholders.
3. Focus group with CRNBC Board in April 2011.
4. Focus groups or interviews with other key stakeholders.
5. A draft framework and philosophy and a PowerPoint presentation for the CRNBC Leadership Team and Board by September 2011.
6. Progress reports to project sponsor as required.
7. Proposed communication plan.
8. Final document and presentation to the Board in February 2012.

SCHEDULE/TIMELINE OF THE RFP PROCESS

RFP Issue Date	January 28, 2011
RFP Close Date	February 18, 2011
Vendor Selected	March 11, 2011
Project Begins	March 28, 2011
Project Concludes	February 2012

ESTIMATED VALUE AND BUDGET

Total estimated value of this project shall not exceed \$60,000.

CONSULTANT EXPERTISE REQUIRED

The successful candidate will:

- Be knowledgeable of health system and national/international models of professional regulation.
- Have proven experience and ability with stakeholder consultation and demonstrated ability to explain complex concepts to individuals and groups in a way they understand and that elicits useful feedback to inform the work.
- Have proven ability in policy, research and evaluation in a regulatory context.
- Politically astute and skilled communicator with excellent written and verbal skills.
- Understand and be in compliance with the confidentiality requirements of the Health Professions Act and Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.
- Be able to analyze bylaws and mandates and understand legal ramifications.
- Have experience in carrying out projects at health system and national levels.
- Hold a graduate degree in a relevant discipline.

SUBMISSION PROCESS

Proposals should include:

- Approach and methods for carrying out the research.
- Work plan, including timeline.
- Detailed budget.
- CV outlining qualifications and related experience.

Proposals will be single-spaced, 12 pt font and will not exceed five pages in length.

Researcher CV, references and proposed budget can be included as appendices.

Proposals, with appendices, are to be submitted in a single PDF file.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING PROPOSALS

The following will be used to evaluate proposals:

- Your statement identifying the work planned to complete this project, including the identification of specific outputs, a detailed timeline and a budget.
- Your understanding of the project requirements by situating the proposal within existing literature on the topic.
- Your experience in conducting similar types of work relevant to this project as well as expertise in the analysis and synthesis of information as it pertains to the subject area.
- Your qualifications as above.

Proposals that fail to meet these criteria will not be considered.