

NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD CONTRACT No. 20-014

Issued: February 24, 2020

Vendors are advised the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) intends to direct award a contract to the *VIU Coastal Hydrology and Climate Change Research Lab* for the provision of Snowpack LiDAR Surveys and Modelling for the Upper Englishman River.

Services include, but are not limited to:

- Plane-based LiDAR surveys and drone-based photogrammetry for snow
- Creation of 3D surface models of snow-free (bare earth) and various stages of snow cover
- Field validation and collection of snow density data
- Calculate snow depth and density (snow-water equivalent)

The estimated value of the annual agreement will not exceed \$50,000. It will be a multi-year project, starting with a focus on the upper Englishman River watershed, with the possibility of expansion to other watersheds in the RDN in subsequent years.

The RDN wishes to direct award for the following reasons:

- The *VIU Coastal Hydrology and Climate Change Research Lab*, *UNBC Glaciology Lab* and *the Hakai Institute's* Cryosphere Project is already initiated and established, surveying and modelling snowpack in other watersheds on Vancouver Island, including in the neighbouring Comox Valley Regional District.
- This is specialized academic research using highly purpose-specific equipment, technique and software.
- RDN financial participation in the existing Cryosphere Project will expand the scope to include our region.

Vendors wishing to challenge the RDN's intention to direct award a contract to the *VIU Coastal Hydrology and Climate Change Research Lab* must submit their objection, in writing, via email to the following person on, or before 3:00 p.m. PST on March 5, 2020:

Julie Pisani, Program Coordinator, Drinking Water and Watershed Protection
Regional District of Nanaimo
Email: jpisani@rdn.bc.ca

Objections must be submitted on company letterhead and be signed by an individual authorized to represent the company submitting the objection. Vendors must clearly state the reasons why they believe they are qualified to supply the services that are being proposed to be direct awarded and why the services should be competitively tendered.

The RDN retains the right to determine its future course of action depending on any responses received and to perform its due diligence as required prior to making a final decision.