

Manitoba

Floodway Authority



Room 200, 155 Carlton Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3H8
Phone: (204) 945-4900
Toll-free 1-866-356-6355
Fax: (204) 948-2462

February 14, 2006

Manitoba Floodway Authority Seeks Input from Aboriginal Contractors

Construction on the floodway is moving forward and the Manitoba Floodway Authority (MFA) is committed to creating opportunities for construction employment and economic development with the Aboriginal community. The MFA's Employment Equity Strategy, found in the Project Management Agreement, is designed to promote the meaningful participation of Aboriginal people in the project through initiatives in employment, training and an Aboriginal Set-Aside.

The MFA recognizes there are a number of challenges for Aboriginal contractors in the construction industry and would like to ask you some questions in areas, such as:

- Joint Ventures
- Bonding Capacity
- Professional Skill Development
- Training and Work Experience

Through the attached survey, the MFA is seeking input from Aboriginal contractors in heavy construction that will assist the MFA in making decisions regarding the Set Aside initiative.

Aboriginal contractors are invited to attend an information session to discuss this survey and initiative. Sessions are scheduled for the following dates and locations:

- **Thursday, February 23 - WINNIPEG - Place Louis Riel, 6:30 - 8:00 pm**
- **Monday, February 27 - BRANDON - Victoria Inn, 6:30 - 8:00 pm**
- **Tuesday, February 28 - SELKIRK - Indian and Metis Friendship Centre, 6:30 - 8:00 pm**
- **Wednesday, March 1 - THOMPSON - Burntwood Inn, 6:30 - 8:00 pm**

The information received through these sessions and survey will assist the MFA in important decisions such as the potential size, number and scheduling for contracts to be awarded under the Aboriginal Set Aside.

Please return the completed survey to the MFA by Wednesday, March 8, 2006. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Carla Kematch, Employment Equity and Economic Development Coordinator with the MFA, at 945-2479 or toll-free 1-866-356-6355.

We appreciate your participation in this important initiative. By working together, the MFA's commitment to creating opportunities for construction employment and economic development with the Aboriginal community will be realized.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ernie Gilroy', written over a horizontal line.

Ernie Gilroy
Chief Executive Officer

THE ABORIGINAL SET-ASIDE SURVEY

Proposed Aboriginal Set-Aside

The West Dike component of the floodway expansion project is being considered for the Aboriginal Set-Aside initiative. Work on the West Dike will improve the dike's ability to protect against wind effects on the floodwaters of the Red River and is, therefore, a critical component of the overall project. The West Dike will be extended by approximately 15 kilometres (9 miles) and raised in height by varying amounts to 1.5 metres (6 feet). Components of the work may include dike construction, utility relocation, traffic control temporary detours, traffic signs, fencing, and temporary erosion control measures.

The MFA is planning to tender one section of the West Dike to qualified Aboriginal construction companies for work starting in the 2006 construction season. Pending the outcome of the work on the first section, additional sections will be tendered in subsequent years.

To qualify as an Aboriginal company to bid for work on the Aboriginal Set-Aside, a company must be:

- Minimum 51% Aboriginal-owned **AND**
- Minimum 1/3 of employees being Aboriginal

Survey starts on following page.

How many fulltime employees are there?	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	
How many part time/seasonal employees are there?	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	
Of the above, how many construction/trades employees are there?	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	
How many construction employees are employed during peak construction?	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	
Does your company train employees?	Yes	No	
Would your company be able to accommodate new trainees?	Yes	No	
Would your company be able to provide work experience?	Yes	No	
EQUIPMENT PROFILE			
What construction equipment does your company use? Please list.			
Does your company rent/lease construction equipment?	Yes	No	
If yes, please list:			
Do you have a reliable equipment supplier secured?	Yes	No	
WORKPLACE SAFETY PROFILE			
Does your company have a workplace safety plan? (as outlined in Section 7.4 of The Workplace Safety and Health Act W210)			
	Yes	No	
If yes, has your plan been audited by an independent auditor?			
	Yes	No	
Is your company COR certified?			
	Yes	No	
If no, is your company in the process of obtaining COR certification?			
	Yes	No	
FINANCIAL PROFILE			
Is your company currently able to be bonded?			
	Yes	No	
Can your company provide financial information in lieu of bonding?			
	Yes	No	
Does your company have an accountant?			
	Yes	No	
Does your company have a yearly audit?			
	Yes	No	

CONFIDENTIAL: CONTACT INFORMATION			
Name of Company			
Name of Principal			
Address			
Telephone		E-mail	
Fax		Website	
Signature			

DISCLAIMER

Responses to all questions are strictly voluntary. The purpose of this Survey and any response to it is simply to collect information that will assist the MFA regarding the Aboriginal Set-Aside initiative. It does not constitute an offer for work on the MFA floodway expansion project. Failure to submit a survey does not prohibit anyone from submitting bids at later dates. The analysis of the collected non-identifiable profile information will be made available on the MFA website.