



**MANITOBA
CROP
ALLIANCE**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Assessment of the Capacity for Crop Research in Manitoba

BACKGROUND

Manitoba Crop Alliance Inc. (MCA) is a non-profit, commodity organization that represents 7400+ farmer members with the mandate to grow the potential of the barley, grain corn, flax, sunflower, spring, and winter wheat crops as profitable and sustainable choices for Manitoba farmer members. MCA will accomplish this through leadership and strategic investment in research, extension and production, market access and development, and communications.

MCA's mission is for every levy dollar we collect, we maximize these resources into meaningful, independent research, valuable knowledge, and targeted advocacy. The investments made on behalf of our farmers must meet our crop specific and whole farm priorities.

The research, production, and extension services that MCA funds have a clear impact on the farms of our members. MCA funds research to provide data that supports and aids members in making decisions for their operations. Much of this information has come from research performed by public institutions such as government agencies and universities. Manitoba farmers are concerned that public and private agronomic research capacity has not kept pace with the growth of the industry.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

Manitoba Crop Alliance is leading an initiative to assess the capacity for crop research at public and private institutions in Manitoba.

The objective of this study is to provide information that describes the present and anticipated capacity for crop research in Manitoba. This information will be used to assist MCA determine potential opportunities for future research investments.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

To receive consideration, responses to this RFP must be received no later than **4:00 p.m. CST on OCTOBER 20, 2023.**

Proponents must submit electronically to the address outlined below:

Darcelle Graham, Chief Operating Officer
c/o Manitoba Crop Alliance Inc.
Box 188 Carman, MB R0G 0J0
darcelle@mbcropalliance.ca
Phone: 204-750-1774

DELIVERABLES

Task	Target Date
Issue RFP	October 4, 2023
Deadline for Proponents' Questions	October 13, 2023
RFP Submission Deadline	October 20, 2023
Selection of Proponent	October 27, 2023
Final Report Due to MCA	January 26, 2024

** Disclaimer: Target dates could be adjusted upon agreement between MCA and the successful proponent.*

PROJECT CONTACT

Proponents are encouraged to obtain a clear understanding of the proposal requirements prior to submission. At all times, the Proponent is responsible for contacting the project contact requesting clarification that may be required to prepare the proposal.

Inquiries, interpretations and questions regarding the procurement process or the scope of the work are to be directed to:

Darcelle Graham, Manitoba Crop Alliance Inc.
Box 188 Carman, MB R0G 0J0
P: 204-750-1774
Darcelle@mbcropalliance.ca

Written email inquiries are preferred.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

The Proposal should describe:

- Proposed methodology for completing the work as described;
- All fees associated with completion of this project,
- The name or names of all persons contributing to billable hours on the project;
- The CVs of the principals in the project;
- References from two previous clients;
- Date of availability for project initiation;
- Any issues that were not covered in the RFP that the consultant believes to be critical to responding to the RFP.

IN SCOPE

The study will be limited to capacity in Manitoba.

The study will include federal government, provincial government, university, private contractor, and private operated facilities.

Capacity is defined as infrastructure (land, buildings, equipment), budgets (core and project funding) and human resources (professional and technical; full time, part time and contract).

Agronomy research includes pathology, entomology, physiology, weed management, insect management, disease management, fertility management, soil quality, water management, cropping systems, crop establishment, crop management, harvest management, food processing, quality, and value-added capacity.

Crop development including plant breeding and genetics, plant physiology and nutrition and pest management.

Crops include MCA field crops (barley, grain corn, flax, sunflower, spring, and winter wheat).

FINAL REPORT

The final written report (paper and electronic format) will include:

- An inventory of the current crop research capacity (capital and human resources) in Manitoba.
- An inventory of the projected crop research capacity expected in Manitoba in 2024.
- An inventory of recent projects completed by research location/institution for past three years.
- Understanding of research and demonstration capacity.
- Identification of research network collaboration. Opportunities for partnerships with private industry.

- Projected future capacity needs for crop research for producer crop funded research.

COMPLETION DATE

This study is expected to be completed by Friday, January 26, 2024. At the end of the study a report (printed and acceptable electronic format) will be delivered to MCA. Arrangements will be made for the consultant to provide a verbal presentation to the MCA Board of Directors.

MCA will keep your information confidential and will destroy proposals once a suitable candidate has been contracted to complete the work.

The successful consultant will not be considered an employee of MCA and will not be entitled to the benefits of being an employee.

All those who submit a proposal will be notified when a successful candidate has been awarded the contract.