



FNIGC/CGIPN

First Nations Information Governance Centre
Le Centre de gouvernance de l'information des Premières Nations

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Evaluation of the First Nations Regional Health Survey Phase 4 (RHS4)

Submission Deadline: Wednesday, October 29, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. EDT

ABOUT FNIGC

The First Nations Information Governance Centre (FNIGC) is a federally incorporated non-profit organization, established in 2010 under the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act. FNIGC operates with a special mandate from the Assembly of First Nations and is governed by a national Board of Directors representing each of the ten First Nations regions.

FNIGC's mission is to assert First Nations data sovereignty and to support the development of information governance and management at the community level through regional and national partnerships, in collaboration with First Nations. FNIGC adheres to free, prior and informed consent, respects nation-to-nation relationships, and recognizes the distinct customs of nations.

Our vision is for every First Nation to achieve data sovereignty in alignment with its distinct world view.

The FNIGC's vision and mission are guided by the following core strategic objectives:

- 1) Our approach is Community-driven and Nation-based;
- 2) Our data are inclusive, meaningful and relevant to First Nations;
- 3) Our tools are effective, adaptable and accessible;
- 4) Our partnerships connect regions to strengthen data sovereignty.

BACKGROUND

The FNIGC invites proposals from qualified evaluation consultants to conduct an evaluation of the First Nations Regional Health Survey Phase 4 (RHS4).

The First Nations Regional Health Survey (RHS) is the only First Nations-governed national health survey in Canada. It collects information about individuals living on reserve and in northern First

Nations communities, incorporating both Western and traditional understandings of health and well-being.

The first RHS took place in 1997 (RHS 1997) and involved First Nations and Inuit from across Canada. At the time, reliable information on the health and wellbeing of First Nations and Inuit was severely lacking due to the exclusion of First Nations and Inuit from major national health surveys. RHS 1997 was implemented to address these deficiencies while acknowledging the need for First Nations and Inuit to control their own health information. RHS 1997 is considered to be the pilot survey within the overall longitudinal design of the RHS.

Following the pilot, RHS Phase 1 was implemented in 2002-03 with the addition of two new regions, the Yukon and Northwest Territories. At the same time, the Inuit withdrew from the RHS process. Data collection for RHS Phase 1 began in the fall of 2002 and was completed in mid-2003. In total, 80% of the target sample was achieved and 22,602 surveys were collected from 238 First Nations communities.

RHS Phase 2 was initiated in 2008 and completed in the fall of 2010. The sampling approach for this Phase was improved (from that of Phase 1). In RHS Phase 2, 72.5% of the target was achieved and in total, 21,757 surveys were collected in 216 First Nations communities in 10 provinces and two territories.

Data collection for RHS Phase 3 occurred between 2014 and 2016. The survey was conducted in 258 First Nations communities in 10 provinces and two territories, and interviewed 23,764 First Nations children, youth and adults achieving 78% of the sample target.

CURRENT STATUS

Planning for RHS4 began in 2018, with substantive data collection occurring between 2023 and 2025. Given the timing of the project, the RHS was heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. It was a particularly difficult phase, requiring ongoing innovation to address external challenges and ensure successful data collection. Many valuable lessons have emerged from these challenges, along with innovative solutions.

While past evaluations have provided valuable insights into governance, OCAP® principles, methodological fidelity, and the impacts of the RHS process and outcomes at various levels, this evaluation aims to build on that foundation by focusing on optimizing FNIGC's national survey approach. In particular, it will examine structural efficiency, including team composition, staffing and skills, resource allocation, tools, and innovation.

EVALUATION OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of this evaluation are to:

- Gather and analyze regional feedback on key challenges, including gaps in resources, skills, processes, and technologies that affect regional survey operations.

- Leverage insights from regions to drive innovation, inform strategic adjustments, and direct capacity-building efforts—optimizing FNIGC’s survey operations for efficiency, adaptability, and sustainability.

SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED

The successful proponent will:

- Submit a final evaluation plan, including interview and data collection methodologies, for FNIGC review and input.
- Submit a list of evaluation questions for FNIGC review and approval.
- Submit both a draft evaluation report and a final report to FNIGC.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Proposals must include:

- A description of your organization/company and areas of expertise.
- A summary of relevant experience working with First Nations or non-profit organizations.
- An evaluation proposal outlining your approach, key evaluation questions, timelines, work plan, and cost estimate.
- A detailed evaluation plan that meets the objectives outlined above. Proponents are encouraged to recommend adjustments where appropriate.
- Three references for similar evaluation work, including contact information.

ESTIMATED BUDGET

The budget allocated for this project is approximately \$125,000 CAD.

TIMELINE

Milestone	Date
RFP Close	October 29, 2025 (3:00 p.m. EDT)
Notification of Successful Proponent	October 31, 2025
Final Evaluation Report Due	August 31, 2026
Project Completion	September 30, 2026

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Proponents must declare that, to the best of their knowledge, no factors exist that would constitute an organizational conflict of interest.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Proposals must be submitted electronically with the subject line: “Proposal for FNIGC RHS4 Evaluation.”

Please include a statement confirming that all information provided is true, correct, and reliable for the purposes of evaluation and potential contract award.

Submission Deadline: Wednesday, October 29, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. EDT

Submit to:
First Nations Information Governance Centre
34 McCumber Rd, Unit 13
Akwasasne, ON K6H 5R7
Attention: Katie Wood
Email: kwood@fnigc.ca

EVALUATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

Proposals will be assessed based on the following criteria:

1. Qualifications and expertise of the firm and proposed staff
2. Relevant prior experience
3. References and feedback
4. Proposed fees
5. Responsiveness to RFP requirements
6. Quality and clarity of proposal

All interested contractors must have a good working knowledge of the FNIGC Vision and Mission and the First Nations principles of OCAP®.

FNIGC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, terminate the RFP process, or refrain from entering into a contract at its sole discretion.

DISPOSITION OF RESPONSES

All materials submitted in response to this RFP become the property of FNIGC and will not be returned.

CONTACT AND INQUIRIES

Primary Contact:
Katie Wood
Senior Manager, Survey Initiatives
Phone: 613-733-1916 ext. 1053
Email: kwood@fnigc.ca

To maintain fairness and transparency, all communications regarding this RFP must be directed exclusively to the contact listed above. Contact with other FNIGC staff or Board members regarding this RFP may result in disqualification.