



Request for Proposals
Economic Impact Analysis
Proposed Cochrane Hill Gold Mine

February 20, 2019

Closing: March 14, 2019 4:00PM

Introduction:

The District of St. Mary's encompasses a land mass of over 1,900 sq. Km within the eastern region of Guysborough County. Traditional industry in the area was farming, fishing, forestry and mining. More recently the area depends on the lobster fishery and tourism as its main economic drivers.

In 2017 Atlantic Gold Corporation announced their Moose River Consolidated Project involving gold mining sites at the Touquoy Mine in Mooseland, Beaver Dam, Fifteen Mile Stream and Cochrane Hill. The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency recently ordered an environmental assessment for the Cochrane Hill Open Pit Gold mine proposal and Atlantic Gold are currently working on an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as part of this process.

The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's is seeking Proposals from qualified firms to conduct an Economic Impact Analysis to evaluate the direct and indirect impacts on the municipality as a result of the proposed gold mining operation by Atlantic Gold in Cochrane Hill.

Scope of Work:

The intent of this Request for Proposals is to produce an economic analysis and report to the Municipality that will assist Council in forming their position with regards to the proposed open pit gold mine at Cochrane Hill, Guysborough County. This study is to weigh the economic and social factors of the proposed mine that can be attributed to the municipality and the residents of St. Mary's only. Broader socio-economic analysis for Nova Scotia and Canada from the proposed mining operation will be the responsibility of senior levels of government.

In particular, and as a minimum, this study will include:

- Employment estimates for local residents
- Population changes
- Business opportunities for new startups and business expansions

- Socio-economic impacts to the St Mary's River
- Housing / real estate valuation/devaluation within 5, 10 and 20 km radius intervals of the proposed mine site
- Impact on public roads as result of the mine and transportation of the minerals to the Touquoy processing facility at Moose River
- Tourism impacts
- Public safety – mining operations and increased heavy truck traffic enroute from mine to processing facility
- Long term economic and social impacts of the closed mine after reclamation
- Taxation impacts for the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's
- Other

Where possible the Consultant shall provide data for how each category above changed over the past four years as a comparison to the projections related to the introduction of the proposed gold mine.

The consultant shall become knowledgeable on the Cochrane Hill Gold Project. Their proposal should include a review of the Project Description prepared by Atlantic Gold dated September 28, 2018 and any other relevant documentation available on the proposed project. The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency website at <https://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/evaluations/Index?culture=en-CA> provides a registry of current Environmental Assessments and includes the Cochrane Hill Gold Mine proposal.

The consultant shall analyze the socio-economic impacts of the proposed mine on the communities within the municipal boundaries of the District of St. Mary's. A final report will be prepared that Council can use to assist in forming a position regarding the proposed mine development.

Proposal:

Proposal format and quality will form part of the evaluation process. As a minimum, the proposal shall contain of the following:

Title Page

- RFP Title, closing date and time
- Consultant's name and contact details;

Cover letter including

- a brief description of the company/individuals; and
- the nature of the proposal including some key features;

Methodology and Work Plan (including tasks and deliverables);

Project Team

- List of personnel expected to work on the project, including qualifications, level of involvement;
- List of any sub-contractors and their role in the project
- No change may be made to the project team unless approved by the Municipality of St. Mary's in writing;

Qualifications and Related Experience

- Examples of prior completed projects of a similar nature;

Three (3) references who can attest to the Consultant's ability to undertake the project within the specified time and budget constraints;

Proposed Schedule & Estimated Budget Breakdown:

- Phases of work, personnel who will undertake work, hourly rates, estimated hours of work; expected expenses associated with work;
- It is expected that the project will begin immediately following proponent selection. An initial start-up meeting should be scheduled for the week of the award of the contract.

Schedule:

- RFP Closing 4:00 PM March 14, 2019
- Award Contract March 21, 2019
- Progress Report due May 2, 2019
- Final Report due May 23, 2019
- Presentation to Council June 5, 2019

Deliverables:

- **Progress Reports.** The Consultant shall provide informal bi-weekly progress updates to the Municipal CAO and respond to questions in a timely manner.
- **Progress Meetings.** The Consultant shall meet with the Municipal CAO within one week of contract award. A schedule of subsequent meetings will be determined during this initial meeting with at least one meeting at project midpoint and one to present the final report to Council.
- **Progress Report.** A progress report is due to the Municipality on or before May 2, 2019. Four (4) bound copies and one (1) digital copy in pdf format are required.
- **Final Report and Presentation to Council.** A final report is due to the Municipality on or before May 23, 2019. Four (4) bound copies and one (1) digital copy in pdf format are required.

The consultant will present the study to Council on June 5, 2019

Budget:

- **The maximum budget for this study shall not exceed \$30,000 CAN including all applicable taxes.**

Proposal submissions:

- Proposals will be accepted in person or by mail. Emailed pdf submissions will be accepted if followed up with hard copies. The

burden of submission is the responsibility of the person or firm submitting the proposal.

- Proposals are to be submitted to the attention " Request for Proposals – Economic Impact Analysis"
- Inquiries regarding the request for proposals should be directed to Marvin MacDonald, CAO at marvin.macdonald@saint-marys.ca
- It is anticipated the successful proponent will be notified on or before March 21, 2019
- The Municipality of St. Mary's reserves the right, without prejudice to:
 - Accept any proposal
 - Reject any or all proposals
 - Not be obligated to accept the proposal with the lowest cost
 - Accept any proposal it considers to be in the best interest of the Municipality.
- Provide four (4) sealed hard copies and one (1) digital copy in pdf format of the proposal to:

Request for Proposal – Economic Impact Analysis
Marvin MacDonald, CAO
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- Submissions received after 4:00 pm on March 14, 2019 will not be considered.