



## 2014 Request for Proposals Minerals Geoscience

**Issue Date:** May 5, 2014

**Closing Date:** June 30, 2014 at 12pm (Pacific)

**Deliver to:**

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*Geoscience BC is an innovative and applied geoscience organization dedicated to the collection, interpretation, and distribution of geoscience expertise, information, and products to attract exploration investment to BC.*

# REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

## *Geoscience to Encourage Exploration Activity in British Columbia*

Due: June 30, 2014 (noon)\*

*\* Proposals received on or before noon on May 20, 2014 will have the greatest potential to receive funding for part of the 2014 field season*

In support of our mandate to undertake geoscience to attract exploration investment to BC, Geoscience BC is pleased to issue this request for proposals (RFP) for applied geoscience projects. We encourage proposal submissions from First Nations, communities, governments, industry, academia, or non-profit organizations for geoscience projects related to mineral exploration in BC.

### **Proposal Scope:**

This Request for Proposals is open to minerals geoscience work throughout the province. Proposals should be applied and innovative in nature and relate to geology, mineral deposits or metallogeny of BC, or address an exploration method or technique that will enhance exploration interest and success in BC.

Topics of work that will be looked upon favourably include, but are not limited to:

- Integration of Geoscience BC data with existing publicly available or industry-available geoscience data, including existing geophysical, geochemical and geological datasets, drill hole information from ARIS reports and MINFILE information
- Analysis of new Geoscience BC data to increase its usefulness, i.e. geophysical inversions
- New projects focused on understanding geological processes; i.e. geochemical transport, biogeochemical transport and hydrogeochemical studies
- Other value-add projects to complement publicly available datasets.

### **Considerations:**

Projects should **clearly demonstrate the application to exploration in BC and potential to stimulate future exploration investment in BC**. Preference will be given to proposals that incorporate matching or in-kind funding from industry or other organizations. Proposals focused on a deposit or property of a specific company must demonstrate a wider significance to the region, deposit type and/or to other companies in the area to be considered. Industry partners may negotiate exclusive access to the data for an appropriate amount of time prior to the data being released into the public domain. Successful proponents of projects undertaken on open ground must not engage in any staking of ground in the project area until six months after **all** project data is made public by Geoscience BC.

Geoscience BC encourages proponents to include a component of technology/knowledge transfer of project results to the exploration community in their proposal. Geoscience BC expects that results from successful proposals will be presented at technical conferences such as the Mineral Exploration Roundup. In addition, proponents are encouraged to involve First Nations or local community expertise (e.g. prospectors, local contractors, etc.) in their proposal. Consider including these line items in the project budget.

Applicants are expected to have the necessary capabilities to complete the projects submitted within the scope set out and within the schedule defined in partnership with Geoscience BC. Project applicants are expected to maintain an open atmosphere of cooperation with Geoscience BC staff and technical advisors during the execution of accepted projects. Geoscience BC personnel will be available to project proponents during the execution of the projects and will be able to provide advice and review of projects upon request. If project applicants expect to have significant interaction with Geoscience BC personnel

during the execution of a project, this should be highlighted in the project application and discussed with relevant personnel ahead of proposal submission. This request will not be considered negatively during the evaluation of projects by Geoscience BC.

Funding for proposals will be considered at all levels; however, proposals requesting more than \$200,000 from Geoscience BC will be required to demonstrate both high technical merit and exceptional value to mineral exploration in BC. Proposals related to mineral exploration in any area of BC will be considered.

**Proponents should not expect successful projects to start earlier than August 1, 2014 and projects must be completed no later than March 30, 2017.** Details on required Geoscience BC deliverables can be found in the Submission Guidelines in Appendix A, and should be included in the proposal and budget.

**Eligibility:**

Proposals will be accepted from individuals or teams working with First Nations, communities, governments, industry, private consultants, universities or colleges, or not-for-profit agencies.

**Current Geoscience BC Projects:**

Proposals requesting additional funding for a current Geoscience BC Project are asked to notify Geoscience BC well ahead of the proposal deadline, and to include an up-to-date statement of expenditures for the existing project.

**Submission:**

Persons or organizations wishing to make a submission under this RFP should submit a **maximum 10** page proposal (MS Word or PDF format only) describing the objective and scope of their project, reasons why the proposed work will attract mineral exploration investment to BC, personnel involved, and a list of project deliverables and timing. An estimate of the total budget (using Geoscience BC's budget template) should be provided in Excel format. The submission guidelines (including required Geoscience BC deliverables) and required budget template for an RFP can be found in Appendix A of this RFP.

RFPs should be delivered via email in MS Word or PDF format to [clifford@geosciencebc.com](mailto:clifford@geosciencebc.com) by **noon on May 20, 2014**. All proposal proponents (successful or otherwise) will be notified in June 2014. Geoscience BC will begin contract negotiations with successful proponents in late June/July 2014.

**If no suitable proposals are received, no project funds will be awarded. Geoscience BC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals received in response to this RFP and to accept any proposal in whole or in part.**

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## **APPENDIX A: SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

### **Proposal Submission**

Persons (the proponents) wishing to make a submission under this request for proposals (RFP) should confirm their intention and provide a single point of contact, phone number and email address to Andrea Clifford ([clifford@geosciencebc.com](mailto:clifford@geosciencebc.com)) at least a week prior to submission.

The proponent should prepare a **maximum** ten page proposal (not including the budget template) that includes the items listed below. Any pages past the 10 page limit will be disregarded and not submitted for review. Any costs or fees associated with preparing a proposal under this call shall be at the expense of the proponent.

Submit your proposal via email in MS Word or PDF format to [clifford@geosciencebc.com](mailto:clifford@geosciencebc.com) by **12:00 noon on May 20, 2014**.

*The following information is **required** in your submission:*

- 1) Project executive summary and the relevance of the project to Geoscience BC's mandate to stimulate mineral exploration in British Columbia.
- 2) Index or location map, at the appropriate scale, that shows the location of the project relative to towns, cities, roads, other cultural features (particularly parks and protected areas) and stakeholders (e.g., mineral tenures). This map must clearly show NTS map boundaries and numbers.
- 3) Detailed project description that clearly outlines the objectives, methods, expected outcomes and key deliverables. The description must demonstrate that the project is scientifically sound, technically feasible and of an applied and/or innovative nature. It should also indicate how the project relates to other recent or on-going research by the proponents, Geoscience BC or other researchers or provincial or federal agencies. Include appropriate references as necessary.
- 4) Description of the key personnel involved in the project including their experience with related projects, credentials and professional affiliation plus any relevant publications. All persons or organizations that will play a key role in the project must be identified in the proposal.
- 5) Dates for completion of the various parts of the proposed project.
- 6) Detailed budget using the provided template (see below, not included in 10 page limit).

*The following information is **recommended** to be included in your submission, if applicable:*

- 1) Other maps, illustrations, and photographs as required to fully describe the project;
- 2) QA/QC procedures that will be employed;
- 3) Details of any training aspects to the project;
- 4) Letter(s) from industry or other sources of matching funds indicating their willingness to support the project if approved and the level of support anticipated.

## Deliverables

In addition to any final project deliverables specified by the proponent, Geoscience BC requires that each funded project submit the following interim deliverables **annually** (until the project is complete):

- A poster for display at the Mineral Exploration Roundup in Vancouver each January
- An article for Geoscience BC's Summary of Activities (submission deadline in mid-October)

## Budget Details

A detailed budget **must** be submitted using Geoscience BC's "Proposal Budget Template" available at [www.geosciencebc.com/s/RequestsforProposals.asp?ReportID=475100](http://www.geosciencebc.com/s/RequestsforProposals.asp?ReportID=475100). As your project progresses, you will need to use this template to report your actual expenditures to Geoscience BC. This will allow for easy comparison between the proposed budget and actual expenditures. Add lines as necessary to properly complete your budget (e.g. if there are multiple personnel at different rates of pay, add a line for each group).

Outline a complete budget for the project that includes the funding requested from Geoscience BC and any matching funding that has been secured, or will be requested from other sources. Components of the proposed project do not need to be separated out as to the source of funds, unless matching or Geoscience BC funds will be directed to a certain part of the project budget.

*Note the following:*

- **Geoscience BC does not pay overhead.**
- Geoscience BC does not cover Capital Costs over \$1000 (e.g. computer purchases, field gear) without prior approval. If a Capital item is a requirement for your project, contact Geoscience BC ahead of submitting the proposal.
- Funding for projects approved through this RFP will not include GST as Geoscience BC does not consider the funding provided to comprise a 'Taxable Supply' under the Excise Tax Act. Geoscience BC considers funding to be exclusive of GST to the extent that the Principal Proponent is entitled to claim input tax credits or rebates in respect to their expenditure of these monies. If GST paid is included as an expense under this grant, the Principal Proponent will provide Geoscience BC with a detailed breakdown of these amounts together with an explanation as why they were not claimed as input tax credits or GST rebates.
- Geoscience BC reserves the right to approve a smaller budget than submitted in the proposal.
- It is expected that proposals will come with supporting funding from the proponent's organization in the form of salaries, laboratory facilities, computer resources, student stipends, equipment, logistics, etc. Proposals with a high level of supportive funding are looked upon favourably.

## Selection

Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by Geoscience BC's Technical Advisory Committee, which will recommend projects to the Board of Directors for final funding approval.

Geoscience BC reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals received.

Information on successful proposals will be published on Geoscience BC's website.

Proposal reviews will focus on the following:

- **Technical Quality** – Is the project technically sound and well defined with clearly articulated objectives? Is it feasible? Is it innovative?
- **Industrial relevance** – Does the project demonstrate an application to mineral exploration in BC? Is it likely to result in increased investment in exploration? Is the project supported by matching industry funds?
- **Personnel** – Do the proponents have the experience and qualifications to complete the project? Have previous projects been completed and delivered in a timely manner? Are there any training aspects to the project?
- **Budget** – Is the budget well-defined and competitive? Is it realistic? Has the project generated supportive funding?

For more information, please contact:

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