

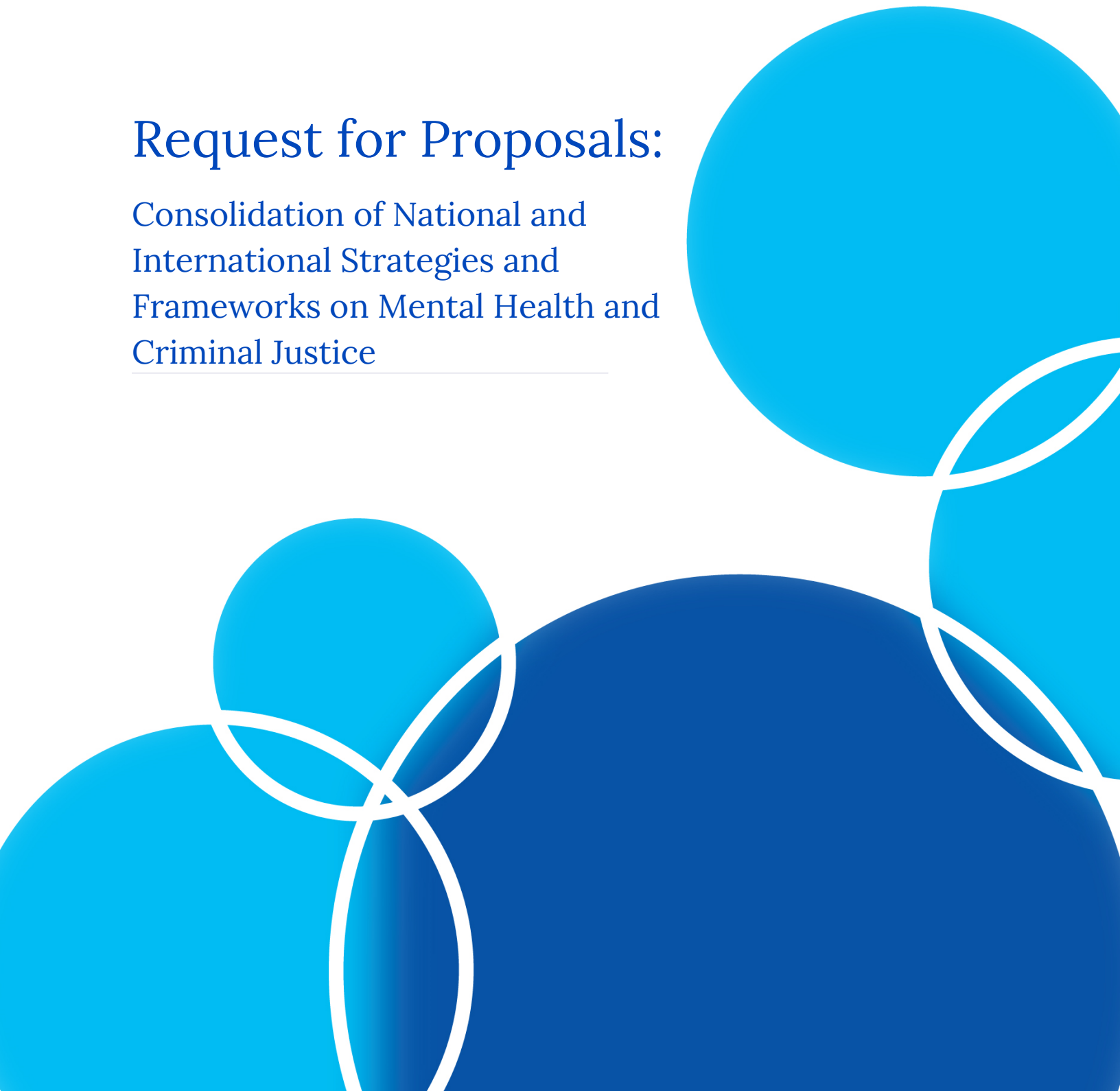


Mental Health
Commission
of Canada

Commission de
la santé mentale
du Canada

Request for Proposals:

Consolidation of National and
International Strategies and
Frameworks on Mental Health and
Criminal Justice



Ce document est disponible en français.



The views represented herein solely represent the views of the Mental Health Commission of Canada. Production of this material is made possible through a financial contribution from Health Canada.

Submission Deadline:

11:59PM ET on Tuesday,
May 24, 2022



Purpose

The Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) is seeking a consultant(s) to consolidate past and current strategies and frameworks (national and international) on mental health and criminal justice.

Background

The MHCC is committed to supporting the mental health needs of individuals who come into contact with Canada's criminal justice system, most recently through a commitment to develop a national action plan on mental health and criminal justice. This action plan will be informed by consolidating and building on recent and current frameworks, strategies, and research to improve and transform systems, standards, and experiences in mental health and criminal justice in Canada.

Scope of Work

The scope of this work includes but is not limited to the following elements:

- Scanning Canadian academic and grey literature, including government, ministry, non-profit, advocacy, and justice/health/mental health/substance use organization websites for past and current strategies and frameworks on mental health and criminal justice.¹
- Reviewing relevant Canadian and international² strategies and frameworks, including those identified below, and summarizing the key themes, findings, promising practices, gaps and limitations, priorities, recommendations, and next steps outlined in each.
- Reporting on the current status of each item of literature and categorizing them according to their stage of implementation (i.e., draft, concept, proposal, monitored, audited, evaluated).

¹ Please refer to the Scope of Review section for a list of topics and identified strategies and frameworks to be included in the scan.

² Please note: the successful candidate(s) is not expected to scan for additional international strategies and frameworks but to simply review and summarize those identified in the Scope of Review section.

- Preparing a final report that includes a comprehensive summary of the literature and identifies which strategies, frameworks, and research documents have been effective or ineffective, based on the AGREE Instrument. The report should also outline common themes, opportunities for improvement, promising practices, and any outstanding gaps identified across the frameworks, strategies, and research.
- Providing files and/or links to each document reviewed.

Scope of Review

1. Topics to be Included

While the following topics are in scope, they should not be considered final. A complete list of scope of review topics will be confirmed before the work commences.

In scope:

- the continuum of criminal justice involvement
- the mental health system
- Indigenous communities and other priority populations in Canada

Out scope: youth

2. Identified Frameworks, Strategies, and Research to Consolidate

Please note: the following lists are not exhaustive and should be understood as suggested starting points for the range of topics the MHCC would like reviewed.

MHCC:

- [Out of the Shadows at Last: Transforming Mental Health, Mental Illness and Addiction Services in Canada \(2006\)](#)
- [The Mental Health Needs of Justice-Involved Persons: A Rapid Scoping Review of the Literature \(2020\)](#)
- [Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System: “What We Heard” – Evidence Summary Report \(2020\)](#)
- [COVID-19, Mental Health, and Substance Use in Correctional Settings: Considerations for Addressing Systemic Vulnerabilities \(2021\)](#)
- [MHCC Strategic Plan 2021-2031](#)

Canada:

- [Under Warrant: A Review of the Implementation of the Correctional Service of Canada's "Mental Health Strategy" \(2010\)](#)
- [Institute of Health Economics | Consensus Statement on Improving Mental Health Transitions \(2014\)](#)
- [Truth and Reconciliation Commission: Calls to Action \(2015\)](#)
- [A Mental Health and Addiction Plan for First Nations in the Atlantic Region \(2015\)](#)
- [ICCLR | Mental Health in the Criminal Justice System \(B.C. Symposium\) \(2015\)](#)
- [CSC | Towards a Continuum of Care – Mental Health Strategy \(2012\)](#)
- [FPT Partnership | Mental Health Strategy for Corrections in Canada \(2015\)](#)
- [CSC | Mental Health Strategy – Quick Facts \(2018\)](#)
- [Evaluation of the Aboriginal Justice Strategy \(2016\)](#)
- [Corrections in Ontario: Directions for Reform \(2017\)](#)
- [Institutional Violence in Ontario: Final Report \(2018\)](#)
- [Access to Primary Care for Persons Recently Released from Prison \(B.C.\) \(2018\)](#)
- [NUPGE | Mental Injury Among Justice Workers \(2019\)](#)
- [Transforming Health Care in Our Provincial Prisons \(Ontario\) \(2019\)](#)
- [West Coast Prison Justice Society | Solitary by Another Name: The Ongoing Use of Isolation in Canada's Federal Prisons \(2020\)](#)
- [BC First Nations Justice Strategy \(2020\)](#)
- [Shedding Light on "the Hole": A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis on Adverse Psychological Effects and Mortality Following Solitary Confinement in Correctional Settings \(2020\)](#)
- [John Howard Society's 5-Point Plan to Improve Corrections \(2021\)](#)
- [Prevalence of Mental Health Needs, Substance Use, and Co-occurring Disorders Among People Admitted to Prison \(B.C.\) \(2021\)](#)
- [Bill C-228: An Act to Establish a Federal Framework to Reduce Recidivism \(2021\)](#)
- [Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan \(B.C.\) \(2022\)](#)
- [Defunding the Police: Defining the Way Forward for HRM \(2022\)](#)
- [Re-examining Mental Health Crisis Intervention: A Rapid Review Comparing Outcomes Across Police, Co-responder and Non-police Models \(2022\)](#)
- [Management of COVID-19 for Persons with Mental Illness in Secure Units: A Rapid International Review to Inform Practice in Québec \(2020\)](#)
- [Research Priorities in Mental Health, Justice, and Safety: A Multidisciplinary Stakeholder Report \(2015\)](#)
- [British Columbia Provincial Corrections' Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Case Study of Correctional Policy and Practice \(2020\)](#)
- [CAMH | Mental Health and Criminal Justice Policy Framework \(2020\)](#)

International:

- [World Health Organization | Mental Health and Prisons \(2005\)](#)
- [WHO | Trenčín Statement on Prisons and Mental Health \(2007\)](#)
- [ICCLR | Mental Health and Substance Use Services in Correctional Settings: A Review of Minimum Standards and Best Practices \(2009\)](#)

- [New Zealand Department of Corrections | Investing in Better Mental Health for Offenders \(2017\)](#)
- [The Future of Prison Mental Health Care in England \(2021\)](#)
- [Advancing Public Health Interventions to Address the Harms of the Carceral System \(2021\)](#)
- [“We Just Needed to Open the Door”: A Case Study of the Quest to End Solitary Confinement in North Dakota \(2021\)](#)
- [Interventions to Reduce Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviours Among People in Contact with the Criminal Justice System: A Global Systematic Review \(2022\)](#)
- [United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners \(the Nelson Mandela Rules\) \(2015\)](#)
- [United Kingdom House of Commons Justice Committee | Mental Health in Prison \(2021\)](#)
- [United Kingdom House of Commons Justice Committee | Mental Health in Prison: Government Response to the Committee’s Fifth Report \(2022\)](#)
- [Commentary: Assessing the Global Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Prison Populations \(2020\)](#)

Deliverables and Timelines

Deliverables include:

- a comprehensive project plan (including detailed timelines)
- a review and validation of the proposed scope (this may involve reviewing academic and grey literature to ensure comprehensiveness of the scope and identifying opportunities and gaps in the proposed scope)
- two (virtual) project updates each month (to the MHCC)
- a final report delivered in an accessible Word format that:
 - includes a comprehensive summary (i.e., key themes, findings, promising practices, gaps and limitations, priorities, recommendations, next steps) of each relevant strategy, framework, and document
 - identifies which strategies, frameworks, and research documents have been effective or ineffective
 - summarizes the common themes, opportunities for improvement, promising practices, and any outstanding gaps identified across the frameworks, strategies, and research.
- a standalone executive summary of the report (3-5 pages)

Timeline:

This project is expected to commence on **June 14, 2022**, and be completed by **November 4, 2022**, according to the following schedule:

- Deadline to receive proposals: May 24, 2022
- Review by selection committee: May 25 – June 10, 2022
- Awarding of proposal to successful candidate(s): June 14, 2022

- Deadline for comprehensive project plan: June 28, 2022
- Review and validation of the scope: by July 29, 2022
- Twice monthly (virtual) check-ins
- Deadline for final deliverables (final report and standalone executive summary): November 4, 2022

Budget

Up to C\$35,000, including all applicable taxes, may be available to the selected vendor. Contract funding will be determined based on project scope, budget, and the vendor's breadth and depth of experience.

Proposal Requirements

The proposal should include the following items:

- **Contact information for the main applicant:** name, title, organization, address, telephone, and email.
- **A list of proposed team members:** names, titles, and organizations, if applicable.
- **Information about the qualifications and experience of the consultant(s):** Be sure to explicitly outline the following areas: (1) education, (2) relevant work experience, and (3) training specifically related to mental health and criminal justice, related disciplines, implementation science, and/or evaluation methodology (e.g., sociology, criminology, familiarity with the AGREE Instrument).
- A description of similar projects the consultant(s) has conducted: include links or examples, where applicable.
- A summary of the consultant's understanding of the requirements and criteria.
- A detailed project plan: Be sure to include
 - a. the proposed approach for completing the project
 - b. a work plan with detailed timelines for proposed activities and deliverables
 - c. a detailed budget that clearly articulates the costs associated with the specific deliverables.
- The CVs of each project team member(s) (as attachments).
- **Two relevant references that the MHCC may contact:** previous or current clients (preferred) who can speak to the proponent's skills and services on similar projects.
- **Some French language skills (likely):** required for scanning relevant strategies and frameworks in French. Preference will be given to applicants who have demonstrated intermediate- or higher-level French capacity.

Note: The MHCC reserves the right to select the proponent of its choosing, or to not proceed with any.

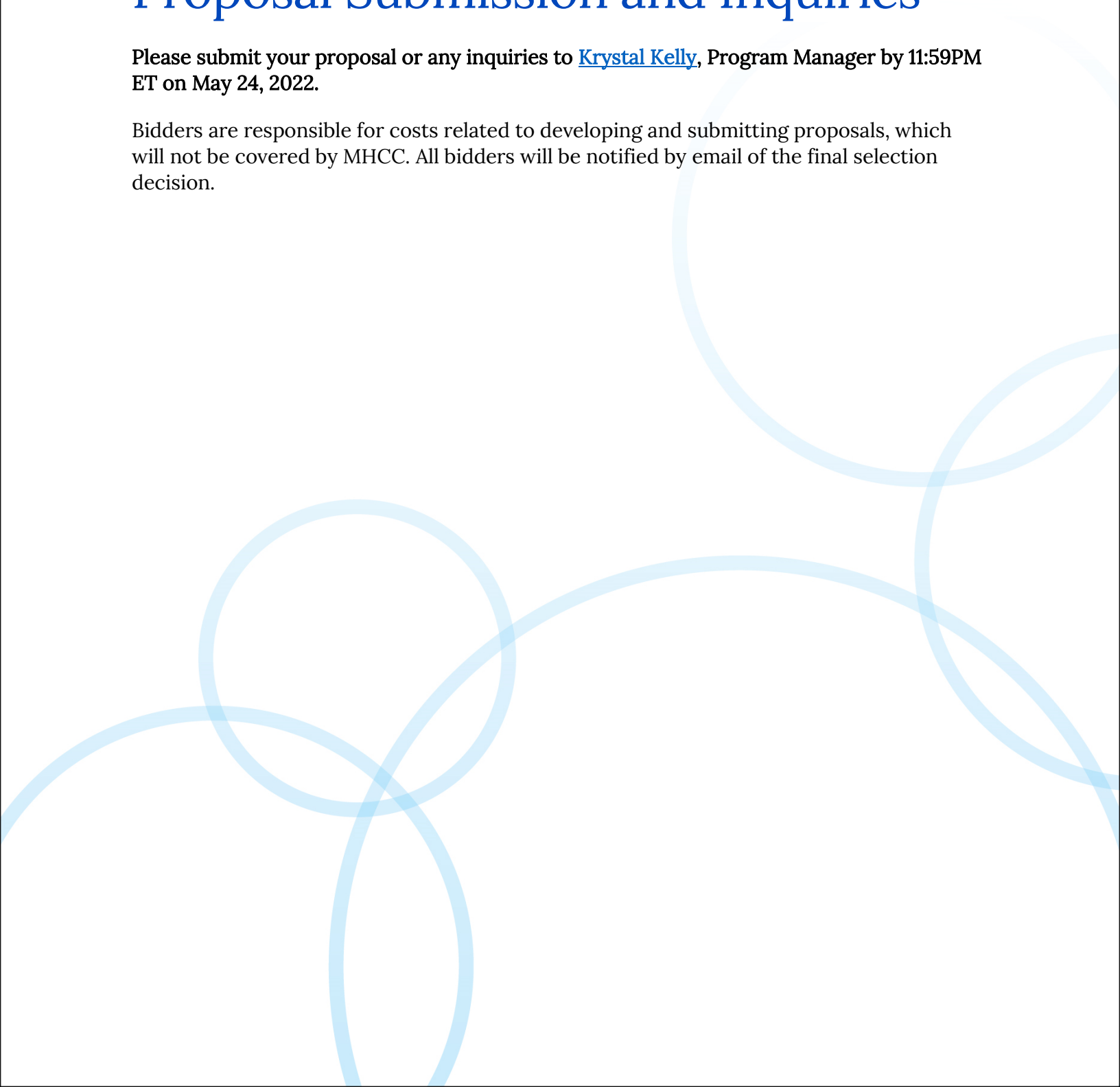
Recognition and Authorship

The deliverables, including the final report, will be the property of the MHCC. Researchers and contributors will be recognized in reports produced during the project, in keeping with applicable international guidelines.

Proposal Submission and Inquiries

Please submit your proposal or any inquiries to [Krystal Kelly](#), Program Manager by 11:59PM ET on May 24, 2022.

Bidders are responsible for costs related to developing and submitting proposals, which will not be covered by MHCC. All bidders will be notified by email of the final selection decision.





Mental Health Commission
of Canada Commission de
la santé mentale
du Canada

Mental Health Commission of Canada, 2022

Suite 1210, 350 Albert Street

Ottawa, ON. K1R 1A4

Tel: 613.683.3755

Fax: 613.798.2989

 @MHCC_  /theMHCC

 /1MHCC  @theMHCC

 /Mental Health Commission of Canada

 /theMHCC