



BC FOREST DISCOVERY CENTRE

Operated by the British Columbia Forest Museum

Request for Qualifications

Date Issued: December 15, 2011

Submission Deadline: January 15, 2012

Submission Address: BC Forest Discovery Centre
2892 Drinkwater Road
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This request for qualifications is an open invitation to interested parties to submit their qualifications for the delivery of exhibit design and construction.

BCFM is requesting qualifications to be considered for their museum expansion and renovation project. After several thoughtful planning exercises, the Museum has determined that a revised site plan including the refinement and development of existing and new thematic zones is required in order to continue to attract visitors, care for the objects in its collection and educate the community on the importance of the forest relevant to the development of British Columbia's coastal communities.

Background

The BCFM is a 100 acre open air museum of forest history, including logging, lumbering, and forest management. Site attributes include trails through a mature second growth forest, approximately 40 acres of wetland, 12 historically significant buildings and a 2 ½ kilometre operational railway.

Over the last five years the museum has faced a dramatic decline in funding from government and corporate partners. Over this same time attendance has continued to show signs of significant growth. Visitor counts in 2007 were approximately 28,000 and the 2011 numbers were approximately 40,000. This growth in attendance can be directly attributed to labour-intense value-added special events.

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Attendance has now reached a plateau and the Society, through its planning initiatives, has determined that improvement of its core function as a museum balanced with entertaining events will generate the required visitors and funding necessary to become financially sustainable. The museum therefore is looking to improve education and interpretation on site, create thematic zones within the landscape and provide interactive family experiences.

An architectural firm is required to work with museum board and staff to develop design concepts, determine estimated construction costs, and provide architectural services for the design, bid and construction phase of proposed thematic zones.

This is a request for qualifications (RFQ) only. The British Columbia Forest Museum (BCFM) is not obligated to proceed further. BCFM may at its sole discretion elect not to accept any submission for any reason.