



TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Health

FROM: Christopher Mackie, Medical Officer of Health

DATE: 2016 February 18

VECTOR BORNE DISEASE PROGRAM - REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Recommendation

It is recommended:

- 1. That G.D.G. Environnement be awarded the contract for the Vector Borne Disease Program – Part A - Larval Mosquito Surveillance & Control in the amount of \$129,870.00 (before taxes); and further***
- 2. That Entomogen Incorporated be awarded the contract for the Vector Borne Disease Program – Part B - Mosquito Identification and Viral Testing in the amount of \$22,080.00, (before taxes).***

Key Points

- A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued to deliver services for the Vector Borne Disease program and resulted in decreased annual costs of \$44,265.
- Two major reasons for the decrease in cost: 1) Competition between service provider bids 2) Increased reliance on seasonal VBD staff to monitor and treat standing water sites.
- The amounts can be accommodated in the approved 2016 Vector Borne Disease program budget.

Background

As a result of West Nile Virus activity in Middlesex-London in 2015, and in accordance with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's *West Nile Virus: Preparedness and Prevention Plan for Ontario*, and *Regulation 199/03 (Control of West Nile Virus)* under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*, the Middlesex-London Health Unit will perform surveillance and larviciding activities to control the West Nile Virus (WNV) in mosquito populations in Middlesex-London in 2016.

Similar to past years, the Health Unit will need to contract the services of a qualified pest control management company to perform surveillance and larviciding activities for standing water sites in both catch basins and surface waters. In addition, contracted services for identification of adult mosquitoes and viral testing are also needed. The contracts for these services expired in November, 2015.

In accordance with Section 4.1.3 (4) of the MLHU Procurement Policy (Policy 1-070), Board of Health authorization is required for the awarding of contracts greater than \$100,000 even when the lowest bid is being recommended.

Request for Proposal

On January 7, 2016, staff issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for both larval mosquito surveillance and control (Part A), and mosquito identification and viral testing (Part B). Notice of the procurement opportunity was provided to six known service providers and advertised on the Health Unit's website.

Bidders had the option of bidding on Part A, Part B or both; the RFP closed on Tuesday, January 19, 2016 and a total of three submissions were received. One proponent bid on Part A, one proponent bid on Part B, and one proponent bid on both parts.

An evaluation committee consisting of members from the Environmental Health Team and the Operations Team evaluated all bids using a predetermined set of evaluation criteria which included personnel, experience, qualification, methodology, cost, timelines, reports, products, software programs, resources, and value added benefits.

For Part A, the evaluation committee recommends the contract be awarded to G.D.G. Environnement in the amount of \$129,870.00 (exclusive of HST). This firm had the highest evaluation score and the lowest bid for Part A. (See [Appendix A](#))

For Part B, the evaluation committee recommends the contract be awarded to Entomogen Incorporated in the amount of \$22,080.00 (exclusive of HST). This firm had the highest evaluation score and the lowest bid for Part B. (See [Appendix A](#))

Both contracts are for a (1) one year period with the Health Unit having sole discretion for an optional second year. If the extension option is exercised, there will be no additional cost for Part B. However for Part A, there will be a 1% increase in the contract price for the second year. The contracts will stipulate that future years' services will be contingent on MLHU receiving funding approvals for the program.

2016 Vector Borne Disease Budget Impact

Included in the proposed 2016 budget is an amount of \$616,000 to deliver the Vector Borne Disease (VBD) program. The proposed budget for these two contracts is \$198,890. Including the HST rebate, these two contracts will cost \$154,625, which is \$44,265 less than the previous year. There are two major reasons for the decrease in cost: 1) Competition between service provider bids, and; 2) Increased reliance on seasonal VBD staff to monitor and treat standing water sites. A portion of the cost savings will be directed to increase public education and awareness activities in the VBD program. There are anticipated increases in demand for information about Lyme disease, and also about the Zika virus due to recent media activity related to this emerging mosquito-borne illness.

Conclusion

As a result of the Request for Proposal process undertaken, staff members are recommending that the Board of Health award contracts to G.D.G. Environnement in the amount of \$129,870 and Entomogen Incorporated in the amount of \$22,080 exclusive of taxes.

This report was prepared by Ms. Melody Couvillon, Manager, Procurement & Operations and Mr. Fatih Sekercioglu, Manager, Environmental Health.



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