



2021 FIPA Transparency News Stories Request for Proposal

Table of Contents

Goal.....	2
Statement of Objectives.....	2
Plans	3
Criteria	3
Qualifications	3
Our process	4

Goal

Our goal is to develop and maintain a user-friendly database of news stories that is accessible and searchable showcasing the breadth of material that Access to Information requests and research have informed across the country.

Statement of Objectives

We are seeking a partner to collaborate with who can:

- Develop a clear and repeatable methodology to maintain the underlying database on an ongoing basis.
- Design metrics to measure and demonstrate effectiveness of the methodology.
- Apply the methodology by contributing findings to the existing body of work (Transparency Spotlight) and expanding the table and its functionality.

There are identifiable areas we would like to expand upon in this work. For example:

- There may be alternate sources of stories that can be examined and alternate methods to search for these stories.
- There is an underrepresentation of BIPOC and 2SLGBTQ+ authors and publications despite extensive work and research by these communities using Access to Information.
- The list captures Federal and BC stories. We would like to expand the coverage of news stories from other provinces and territories.
- The categories (taxonomy) of stories could be refined.

As work progresses, new areas of expansion may be found.

Plans

FIPA hosts the database via our website. Current methodology is informed by this [Introduction](#).

Projections estimate 10 hours per month or 120 hours per year of human review and classification of the results from a defined, repeatable methodology gathering stories in order to maintain the database. Funds available for this activity are between \$1,800 to \$3,600 on an annual basis.

Renewal plans are to put forward a similar request for proposal every two years. A two-year cycle creates the opportunity to move the contract to researchers across the country and to a variety of providers over time. This cycle supplies some stability while also providing the opportunity to diversify the researchers and people working on the project.

Criteria

FIPA is seeking a two-year partnership. We are requesting submissions from:

- instructors in archival or library information studies, journalism programs or related areas,
- student newspapers,
- technical data and information analysis providers, or
- graduate students enrolled in academic programs for the next two years (2021-2023). Preference will be given to those enrolled in archival or library information studies, journalism programs or related areas.

Qualifications

- Experience designing and conducting systematic research.
- Knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research methods.
- Knowledge of existing public online news story databases.
- Knowledge of the access to information or freedom of information process and legislation is an asset but not required.
- Preference may be given to consideration of:
 - How to address gaps in representation of BIPOC and LBTTQ+ authors and publications.
 - Capturing these stories at the Canadian national and provincial level.
- Quotes higher than \$3,600 may qualify based on their scope of activities, workplan and deliverables.

Our process

We ask that you send a brief (max 1,000 word) proposal outlining how we could partner and collaborate with you and how you meet the criteria and qualifications in this [PDF](#).

As part of the submission, please include a supporting document(s) that breaks out key personnel, contact information, perceived scope of work to address the identified objectives with major project milestones, expected budget allocation and payment schedule, and any initial additional requirements from FIPA.

Please send your proposal to: [FIPARFP at FIPA.bc.ca](mailto:FIPARFP@FIPA.bc.ca)

The deadline for application is: **Midnight PST October 6th, 2021**

FIPA's Executive Director along with a selection committee from its Board of Directors will be considering applications on an ongoing basis and reviewing based on the qualifications.

All applicants will receive a response. The successful applicant will be recognized on our site as a partner.

If you have questions, please submit them to [FIPARFP at FIPA.bc.ca](mailto:FIPARFP@FIPA.bc.ca). They will be addressed with attention being paid and efforts made to ensure a fair selection process.