



CITY OF VANCOUVER

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: May 14, 2007
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TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: Chief Constable of Vancouver Police Department
Manager of Materials Management

SUBJECT: Award of Contract on Request for Expressions of Interest PS07001 - Health Care Services For The Vancouver City Municipal Jail

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council authorize the City to enter into a five year contract, on terms satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services, with the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority for health care (nursing) services for prisoners at the Vancouver City Municipal Jail ("VanJail") located at 265 East Cordova Street up to a maximum cost of \$1,053,224 per year, plus a one time expenditure of \$15,000 for connecting the VanJail to Vancouver Coastal Health Authority computer systems, plus any applicable GST, with funds for the contract to be provided from the Vancouver Police Department ("VPD") operating budget.
- B. THAT the Director of Legal Services be authorized to execute on the City's behalf the contract referred to in Recommendation A.
- C. THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created by Council's adoption of Recommendation A until such contract is executed and delivered by the Director of Legal Services.

COUNCIL POLICY

Contracts with a value over \$300,000 are referred to Council.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for the City to enter into a contract with the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority to provide nursing staff on a twenty four hour - seven days a week year round basis for VanJail up to a maximum cost of \$1,053,224 per year plus applicable GST.

BACKGROUND

In April 2006, the VPD took over from the Province most of the operations at the VanJail located at 265 East Cordova Street. The VanJail is connected to the Provincial Court of B.C. courthouse at 222 Main Street and is a temporary holding facility. It is used to hold newly arrested prisoners pending release by VPD or initial court appearance and to hold other prisoners brought for court appearance from other, longer stay prisons or remand centres. Most prisoners do not spend more than one night at a time at the VanJail before being released by the VPD or by court order or before being remanded in custody and removed to a Provincial remand centre (prison) or before being returned to the prison from which they were brought for court appearance. The current capacity of the VanJail is one hundred (100) prisoners.

It is a necessity in the operation of the VanJail that basic health services be readily available for prisoners. Newly arrested prisoners must be examined by qualified health care professionals on arrival to check for injuries and other serious and other health problems or concerns. This is for the safety of the prisoner being examined and for the safety of other prisoners and personnel at the VanJail with whom the prisoner being examined may come into contact during detention. In addition, from time to time prisoners require basic medical treatment or monitoring while in detention.

Most receive an initial health screening, and, generally, basic health assessments are required at the VanJail for prisoners with drug and/or alcohol dependencies and/or those suffering from mental illness. Those who may require further medical attention are monitored by healthcare staff.

In 2005, a medical review was conducted to assess the health care resources required for operation. It was recommended that two (2) on-duty Registered Nurse (RN) for 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, were needed to carry out nursing services required for the VanJail. Due to lack of registered nursing staff, one (1) on-duty Registered Nurse and one (1) on-duty Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) was used to carry out the nursing services required for the VanJail.

DISCUSSION

The current service provider, Calibre Health Services, Inc., ("Calibre")(formally Joy Morris Health Services Inc.) provided health services to the VanJail when the Province operated it prior to April 2006 and continued providing them to the VPD after it took over the operation of the VanJail in April 2006. Calibre's contract expired on July 31, 2006 and since then has been providing health services at the VanJail on a month to month basis.

On March 2, 2007 Materials Management issued a Request for Expressions of Interest ("RFEI") PS07001, requesting that organizations qualified to provide the health care services needed at the VanJail provide the City with expressions of interest. The RFEI closed on March 20, 2007.

Three proponents responded with Expressions of Interest containing detailed proposals and pricing for the contract. Responses were evaluated by a three person team under the guidance of the City's Materials Management representative, following accepted City practices. Evaluation criteria included experience with similar engagements, staffing resources and price.

Two proposals were less desirable due to higher costs and concerns regarding staffing resources and availability.

The proposal from Vancouver Coastal Health Authority was evaluated to represent best overall value to the City. Vancouver Coastal Health Authority has considerable experience administering a full range of health care services and has been recognized both in Canada and internationally as a leader in providing addiction treatment and mental health services. In addition, their proposal demonstrated a commitment to meeting service level agreements and will work towards ensuring jail clients have access to broader addiction and mental health service continuum. As the regional health authority, Vancouver Coastal Health has substantial infrastructure of health care policies, standards, and training available to staff.

Vancouver Coastal Health Authority's proposal was the lowest in price and provided an added value option to provide network access to the Vancouver Coastal Health computer system. This system will tie into the Provincial health records system thus allowing the VanJail nursing staff the most accurate client information available. It is recommended that the VPD acquire the optional component for the VanJail at a one time maximum cost of \$15,000 up to a maximum cost of \$1,068,224, exclusive of GST and other applicable taxes.

The current service provider, Calibre, has given the City sixty day notice of withdrawing their services from the VanJail. Their last day of service will be June 11, 2007.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The expenditure for health care services and supplies at the VanJail is provided for in the VPD's annual operating budget during the term of the contract.

The annual cost will be up to a maximum of \$1,053,224 plus wage increases from the Provincial contract with the British Columbia Nurses Union as shown in the table below, exclusive of GST, or any applicable taxes.

Term	Year	Provincial Contract with BCNU (BC Nurses Union) from March 31, 2006 to March 31, 2009
Year 1	2007	3.5%
Year 2	2008	2.5%
Year 3	2009	4.2%
Year 4	2010	TBD
Year 5	2011	TBD

A one-time cost of approximately \$15,000 exclusive of GST and any applicable taxes will be required for wiring and cabling the Jail's nursing station to provide network access to the Vancouver Coastal Health Computer system and will be funded from the VPD's annual operating budget.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council authorize the City to enter into a contract, on terms satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services, with the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority for the provision of health care (nursing) services for the Vancouver City Municipal Jail located at 265 East Cordova Street in the City of Vancouver up to a maximum annual cost of \$1,053,224, with possible adjustments from time to time for wage increases, plus a one time expenditure of \$15,000 for connecting the VanJail to the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority computer systems, plus any applicable GST and taxes, with funding for the contract to be provided from the Vancouver Police Department operating budget.

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