

April 8, 2020

Mr. John Landry, Executive Director
Construction Association of New Brunswick
can4@nbnet.nb.ca

Mr. Tom McGinn, Executive Director
NB Road Builders
tom@rbanb.com

Dear Mr. Landry and Mr. McGinn,

Due to the current extraordinary situation, the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DTI) Highways Division is adjusting our tendering process effective immediately. We recognize the economic impact on our stakeholders if we were not to proceed with our Capital Program. At the same time, we want to ensure that we conduct our business in a safe manner to minimize everyone's potential exposure to COVID-19.

Staff with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure continue to work to ensure that all 2020-2021 projects move ahead as planned. This year's Capital Budget is \$500.3 million and approximately \$279.3 million will be invested in our roads, highways and bridges.

Our department wants to assure you that we are doing everything we can to move forward with the capital program and will be issuing tenders in the coming weeks. We are working on an alternate tendering process that would eliminate the need to issue hard copies of tender packages, eliminate face-to-face communication, and enable bidders to submit tenders electronically.

The tendering procedures of the Crown Construction Contracts Act (CCCA) are very precise. We will detail how the entire process will take place so that we are transparent. If you, as a bidder, are not comfortable bidding with these new instructions, then we recommend that you simply not bid.

Projects will be posted on NBON as in the past. Hard copies of tender packages will not be available from DTI, instead, we will continue to post electronic copies of the tender package on NBON.

Addenda will also be issued and posted on NBON but will not be sent directly to the Bidders from DTI. It will be the Bidder's responsibility to obtain the addenda from NBON. Bidders will print the Form of Tender and any other document that is required to be submitted with a specific tender. These documents are to be completed in their entirety, scanned, and submitted to **dotcontractadmin@gnb.ca** prior to the tender closing time.

It is imperative that the project number and name be identified in the Subject Line of the email. If it is not, your bid may not be received. Adjustments to unit prices are to be sent to the same email address, again entering the project name and number into the Subject Line.

All bid submissions shall include a scanned copy of all required documents specified in the tender.

Given that we will not receive the original bid bond, we will verify its authenticity with the associated insurance broker or bonding company prior to award.

Tenders will close precisely at the date and time specified in the tender documents. No submissions will be accepted after that time. There will, of course, be no public openings. The results of the tenders will be posted to NBON as quickly as possible.

I would also like to take this time to thank you for your cooperation, your patience and your understanding during this difficult time. You will be a big part of the recovery process once things return to normal.

Bill Oliver
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure