
REPORT TITLE: Supply of Bloomberg Terminal and Data Connectivity Subscription, Document 2021-750N

FROM: Sean Baird, Commissioner of Service Excellence and Innovation

RECOMMENDATION

That a contract (Document 2021-750N) for the Supply of Bloomberg Terminal and Data Connectivity Subscription be awarded to Bloomberg Finance L.P., in the estimated amount of \$96,960.00 USD (excluding applicable taxes) for a contract period of 24-months pursuant to Procurement By-law 30-2018, as amended;

And further, that authority be granted to renew the contract on a two-year term basis (or for greater than two years, but at a discounted rate) for ongoing subscription, support, and to increase the contract for any upgrades, technical support, implementation and additional modules and licenses for the lifecycle of the solution, subject to satisfactory performance, price, and approved budget.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- Bloomberg Terminal and Data Connectivity has been in use by the Region of Peel's Treasury division since 2002.
 - The service provides real time and historical pricing, media news and research, fundamental data, customized analytics for a wide range of financial markets, and enables the Region of Peel to execute transactions for the sale and purchase of securities.
 - The Bloomberg Terminal and Data Connectivity service is proprietary to Bloomberg Finance L.P.
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DISCUSSION

1. Background

The Region of Peel (the "Region") has been subscribing to the Bloomberg Terminal and Data Connectivity services from Bloomberg Finance L.P. since 2002. The Bloomberg Terminal and Data Connectivity service is a proprietary service that provides real time and historical pricing, media news and research, fundamental data, and customized analytics for a wide range of financial markets available only from Bloomberg Finance LP. The functionality and data provided from this platform is a critical requirement by the Region as it is used to execute trades and support effective and efficient investment management decisions in a way that will maximize returns while minimizing risk in accordance with the investment policies and goals adopted by the Region.

2. Bloomberg

The Region's financial partners primarily and/or solely use Bloomberg when executing transactions with their clients. Bloomberg offers a communication medium within the system that is widely used by the financial community. By not using Bloomberg, the Region would not be able to communicate in real time and/or simultaneously with multiple financial partners, impacting the Region's ability to efficiently execute transactions on both the sale/purchase of securities and on the issuance of debentures.

The ability to monitor and execute transactions in real time is critical in the management of an investment portfolio. Other forms of execution such as conducting trades by phone, are less efficient and is expected to result in less optimal pricing. Given the size of the Region's investment portfolio and active management mandate, this pricing inefficiency could result in opportunity costs to the Region. For example, on a trade volume of \$100 million, a 5-cent change in price equates to \$40,000 opportunity loss to the Region. For reference, the Region trades approximately \$1,000 million on average annually.

Throughout the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, Bloomberg has permitted their clients to access the Bloomberg application remotely, but Bloomberg has recently communicated that they will be terminating the service, effective March 1, 2022. To ensure the proper execution of the investment and debt management program, the Region's staff is recommending the procurement of the Bloomberg Anywhere service for two users, which will allow staff to connect remotely on an ongoing basis and provide the necessary back-up to these critical functions.

3. Procurement Process

This is a non-competitive procurement process and requires Regional Council approval. The process to award this contract is in compliance with the Procurement By-law 30-2018.

This procurement is in accordance with Procurement By-law 30-2018, section 5.2.1, and amending By-law 4-2020, which authorizes the award of direct negotiation procurements for goods and services that are reasonably available from only one source by reason of the scarcity of supply in the market or the existence of exclusive rights held by any vendor or the need for compatibility with goods and services previously acquired and there are no reasonable alternatives or substitutes.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are sufficient funds in the operating budget within Treasury Services to award the contract.

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