

Request for EOI: Indigenous Foodways in Health Care Scan

Nourish envisions a future in which the full potential of food as medicine is honoured and realized in Canadian health and food systems. We equip, connect, and lift leaders, both inside and outside the walls of health care, to leverage the power of food, so that the health system can become more preventive, more equitable, and more sustainable. Find out more at nourishleadership.ca.

Health care institutions are developing relationships with Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and Indigenous communities to better understand traditional and country food – institutions are becoming more culturally mindful and sourcing from Indigenous gatherers, hunters, and suppliers. Facilities can action reconciliation by advancing policies and practices recommended by the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#), the [Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples](#), the [Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls - National Inquiry's Final Report](#), and the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) that address the history of systemic and institutional racism that continues to harm Indigenous people. This journey often begins with understanding in which traditional territory a facility is located, building relationships with local Elders or Knowledge Keepers, offering cultural mindfulness training such as Nourish's [Food is Our Medicine](#) course and moving toward greater Indigenous community control over Indigenous health.

Nourish has built relationships alongside several communities and organizations that have progressed Indigenous Foodways in health care settings including [Yukon Hospitals](#), [Meno Ya Win Health Centre](#), and [Labrador-Grenfell Health](#). We are interested in developing a deeper understanding of the specific actions that have led to their successes, and with organizations, in Indigenous Foodways in Health Care thus far, as well as the political, legal, and social barriers that continue to obstruct uptake and success.

Scope of Work

To research and produce a written resource based on 10 to 15 key player interviews on the topic of pathways and barriers to the inclusion of wild game and other Indigenous foodways, such as foraged foods (i.e. fiddleheads, berries, roots) in Canadian health care institutions. This will build from existing Nourish resources and legal recommendations research. The resource will profile some existing practices and barriers (case examples), describe considerations or preparations necessary for institutions to transition to culturally mindful menus, and outline opportunities for policy innovation at many potential levels (health care

organizations, health authorities, governments, First Nation/Inuit/Métis governing bodies). Finally, share the findings of this project on a public webinar at the end of the project period.

Project Deliverables

1. Review existing key resources and conduct interviews: Review existing key resources developed and curated by Nourish and undergo a light literature and document search for recently published materials. Schedule and conduct 10 to 15 interviews with key actors in the field to understand their practices and better understand the barriers that continue to be faced. Insights will be drawn on themes and the opportunities for policy innovation (e.g. harvester support, food safety). Honorariums of \$100 will be offered by Nourish to key player interviewees.
2. Draft a resource framework: Draft a resource framework outlining the approach, sections, and content proposed for the written resource and present the framework to Nourish for feedback before commencing the first draft of the written resource.
3. Produce a written resource: Draft a public-facing resource (approx 15-20 pages). The writing process will include soliciting and integrating feedback from Nourish and the Nourish Indigenous and Allies Advisory at various stages of the project.
4. Host a virtual presentation: Present key findings on a Nourish webinar.
5. Participate in meetings as required at key junctures in the project.

Project Activities & Timeline

This contract will be in effect from March 15 to June 30, 2024. Key milestones and project activities include:

- **March 8**: Deadline to submit EOI.
- **March 15**: Applicant chosen, contract begins.
- **March 18-19**: Onboarding meeting with the Nourish team.
- **March 18-April 12**: Research period.
- **April 12**: Deadline to finalize report framework.
- **April 15-16**: Meeting to review report framework with the Nourish team.
- **April 30**: Deadline to submit the first draft of written resource text.
- **May 20**: Deadline to submit second draft of written resource text.
- **May 31**: Written resource text is complete and ready for translation and design.
- **June 3-21**: Prepare slide deck for webinar presentation.
- **June 24-28**: Present at the webinar.

Budget

\$8,000 CAD plus applicable taxes.

Qualifications

- Preference will be given to qualified Indigenous applicants. However, the position is open to all applicants.
- Research and professional writing experience.
- Knowledge and understanding of Indigenous ways of doing, Indigenous knowledge sharing, protocols around teachings, and Indigenous foodways.
- General understanding of health care, food services, food safety, and the impact of policies and regulations on Indigenous foodways.

Expression of Interest Requirements

Please submit a resume/CV outlining applicable experience, one to two examples of previous work, and a brief document outlining:

- Your approach and considerations to advance this work in a good way
- Describe a few of your life/work experiences that have prepared you to be successful in this role (briefly highlight your qualifications and interest in this topic)
- Describe any challenges you anticipate and how you may need to overcome them
- Confirmation that you expect to be able to meet deadlines and meeting times outlined in the Project Activities section above.

Expressions of interest should be submitted to Jennifer Reynolds, jreynolds@nourishleadership.ca, by Friday, March 8, 2024, with the subject line: EOI Indigenous Foodways Scan: [Applicant Name].