



Native Women's Association of Canada

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS THE ABORIGINAL WOMEN'S BUSINESS ENTREPRENEURSHIP NETWORK MENTORS

The Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC), through the Aboriginal Women's Business Entrepreneurship Network (AWBEN) program invites interested and established women entrepreneurs to serve as a Mentor for Metis, Status and Non-Status women interested in starting their own business. Mentors will be selected from 6 regions across Canada.

The objectives of AWBEN are to:

- ✓ provide a safe, supportive, collaborative, empowering and culturally supportive environment that addresses the challenges of female Aboriginal entrepreneurs and those that aspire to become entrepreneurs
- ✓ enhance, develop and accelerate growth for current and aspiring female entrepreneurs in a sustainable way through programs and resources
- ✓ promote community leadership through volunteerism as a reflection of respect and reciprocity

SCOPE OF WORK

6 Mentors from different regions across Canada will offer guidance and support by sharing their experience and knowledge, act as a sounding board, help find appropriate resources, build confidence and self-worth in women and help mentees focus on developing or growing their businesses. Mentors will have the ability to encourage all members to participate actively in the group and the skills to facilitate balanced sharing between group members.

The successful Mentors will:

1. Collaborate with NWAC to recruit 5 Metis, Status and Non-Status women interested in starting their own business.
2. Plan, organize and facilitate 10 (3 hour) sharing circle mentoring engagements where businesses will explore and test a social innovation/enterprise component. Entrepreneurs will learn an efficient process for testing their ideas, reducing risk and confirming/ denying market viability.

3. Identify 2 women to be considered as a participant in a 1 day AWBEN Conference at the end of February 2017.
4. Mentors will be required to participate and potentially facilitate a workshop or panel at the 1 day AWBEN Conference in February 2017.
5. Provide an up to date Criminal Record Check.

ADDITIONAL TASKS

Optional task - Mentors will be required to facilitate a 2 day Boot Camp for 10 Aboriginal women in February 2017. The Boot Camps provide 10 selected individuals who have demonstrated commitment and business acumen an opportunity to attend a 2 day Entrepreneurship Boot Camp to enhance their skills and knowledge to a higher level. The Mentors and AWBEN will work together to organize the 2 day Boot Camp.

TIMEFRAME

This is a short term contract with the work will be completed from December 2016 to March 2017.

RENUMERATION

A preliminary budget for these tasks has been established.

The Mentorship Circle contract award is \$8,000 inclusive of GST.

The Boot Camp contract award is \$2,000 inclusive of GST.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSIONS

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Mentor with the Aboriginal Women's Business Entrepreneurship Network. Proposals from applicants with Aboriginal ancestry are preferred however all applicants will be considered. Your contact information will be kept on file for future mentorship opportunities.

The proposals should be submitted electronically to:

Aboriginal Women's Business Entrepreneurship Network

Identify the following in the Subject Line: AWBEN Mentorship Proposal + Name of proponent

awben@nwac.ca

613-722-3033 ext. 259

Proposals will be accepted until positions filled.

Please complete the following information and questions below:

Name:

Title:

Company:

Email:

Telephone:

Website:

Identify Your Top 3 Areas of Expertise:

Cash flow and/or budgeting, Marketing and/or Promotion, Networking, Organization and Administrative Skills, Sales Strategies & Tactics, Strategic Planning for Business Growth, Understanding Legal Documents, Understanding Financial Documents, Understanding Regulations, Satisfaction and Work/Life Balance, Other – please describe.

QUESTIONS

1. Please provide a description of your business. (150 words or less)
2. Have you been a business mentor previously? If so, please briefly describe how you supported your mentee(s) and what are the outcomes of your mentorship?
3. Briefly describe 2 areas where you can mentor a mentee.
4. Do you have a network of existing and aspiring entrepreneurs who are Aboriginal women? If so, please briefly describe. (150 words or less)
5. Do you have a network of Professionals that could facilitate workshops or mentorship circles outside of your area of expertise? (150 words or less)
6. Briefly identify what kind of business workshops you have facilitated. (150 words)
7. For Statistical reasons, please identify if you are Aboriginal or Non-Aboriginal
8. Please use this space to provide any additional information you would like included to help guide the selection of Mentors. (150 words or less)

Please attach copy of your current résumé or CV and Biography