

One more comment/concern to forward to the commissioners for them to consider and address.

If being "local" was going to carry any weight in the selection process for a provider, that preference needed to be clearly outlined and explained in the RFP. It was not. Criterion #3 Understanding of the Community, does not fulfill that requirement. Instead, your RFP mentions "remote" five times. I have bolded them below.

Clearly, for a commissioner to consider "locals", where a provider resides, or transiting the boarder in his or her decision whatsoever would be giving "locals" an undeclared and unfair advantage. And finally, your RFP went out on July 1. The border had already closed to non-essential travel for over three months by then, so that cannot be an excuse to favor an undeclared selection criterion now.

From the RFP:

Task 2 – Prepare an Assessment and Proposal

With the information gained during the information gathering in Task 1, the vendor shall provide the following information within the RFP response:

1. Summary of previous experience in **remote** practice management.
2. Company's objectives as it relates to the provision of **remote** health services.
3. Financial information demonstrating their viability to perform over the life of the contract.
4. Evidence of their capability of managing the administrative functions, including credentialing and billing

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Selection Criteria

1. Thoroughness and understanding of the services to be provided.
2. Experience and reputation in providing **remote** clinic services.
3. Understanding of the community.
4. Staff expertise and overall experience of support personnel including billing and verification of insurance coverage.
5. Head Office support model.
6. Responsiveness to requirements of the project.
7. Cost.

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The PRPHD is seeking Service Providers with experience and a keen interest in the operation of **remote** community medical services. The ideal Service Provider will have experience and expertise in practice management, an understanding of the challenges of providing **remote** services, and will be willing to invest in the necessary community relationships and the development of collaborative approach for delivering health services with the PRPHD.