

## **ADDENDUM # 1**

**Issued: July 21, 2025**

**SOLICITATION #:** RFPQ 1070-2526-093

**TITLE:** Temporary Winter Shelter Operator Services

**LOCATION:** The Province of BC

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** August 8, 2025 @ 2:00 P.M. PT

**PAGES:** 3 Pages

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**All addenda are to be acknowledged on the Submission Form**

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### **1. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

<b>#</b>	<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>ANSWER</b>
<b>1</b>	<p>I am writing to inquire about the Temporary Winter Shelter RFPQ grant opportunity. Our organization has previously applied and received this funding, and we are currently reviewing our plans and priorities in preparation for this year's application.</p> <p>Could you kindly let us know if there are any important changes or significant differences in the eligibility criteria, funding priorities, reporting requirements, or application process compared to last year? Any guidance or updated materials you could share would be greatly appreciated.</p>	<p>This question is about the Temporary Winter Shelter (TWS) program, and not about this RFPQ. At this time, BC Housing is not anticipating significant changes to the implementation of 2025-2026 TWS program.</p> <p>The Temporary Winter Shelter RFPQ is not a grant but an opportunity to pre-qualify as a potential temporary winter shelter operator when new temporary shelter sites become available. The RFPQ itself does not involve any operating funding.</p>

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2	<b>Staffing and FTE calculations:</b> Our proposed shelter model operates 24/7 with two staff on duty at all times. Is there an expected or recommended minimum staffing ratio or FTE per bed that BC Housing suggests for winter shelter operations?	Budget and operating model are negotiated for specific sites during the Second Stage process, and are not part of the prequalification process.
3	<b>Use of pods and cots:</b> We propose using 6 sleeping pods and additional cots as needed to accommodate fluctuations in demand. Are there specific guidelines or expectations around temporary sleeping setups (e.g., cots) that we should follow to align with BC Housing standards?	Budget and operating model are negotiated for specific sites during the Second Stage process, and are not part of the prequalification process.  Depended on space availability, fire safety guidelines, and other factors, BC Housing will work with selected operators to find best approach.
4	<b>Community partnerships:</b> We maintain strong relationships with many non-profit, Indigenous, and government partners. Are there specific expectations for formal agreements or MOUs, or is evidence of active operational collaboration sufficient for this RFPQ?	Partnerships are important to good service delivery and integration with community. Budget and operating model are negotiated for specific sites during the Second Stage process, and partnership evidence is not part of the prequalification process.  When a (new) Temporary Winter Shelter is determined, BC Housing does not require formal agreements or memorandum of understandings amongst partners. BC Housing will require the operator of the site to confirm that it is lawfully permitted to deliver services at the site. And information on partnerships should be shared at the second stage.
5	<b>Site security expectations:</b> Our application outlines on-site staffing, controlled access, and camera monitoring. Does BC Housing have additional site security requirements for winter shelter sites (e.g., external security patrols, additional technology)?	Budget and operating model are negotiated for specific sites during the Second Stage process, and are not part of the prequalification process.  BC Housing may consider funding some security equipment and technology as part of the operational budget, however, security is generally outside of the scope of BC Housing's shelter operating funding. As a best practice, shelter site plans will include Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design review.

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<b>6</b>	<p><b>Indigenous engagement and cultural safety:</b> We work closely with local Nations and Indigenous organizations but do not have formal smudging or ceremony programs in place at this time. Would BC Housing prefer to see formal cultural programs incorporated into the shelter operations, or is culturally safe support through partnerships sufficient?</p>	<p>BC Housing encourages participation from Indigenous-led organizations to deliver shelters. And encourages and supports Shelter Operators building a strong relationship with local First Nations and Indigenous organizations in community to deliver cultural supports such as elders and smudging programs.</p>
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**ALL OTHER REQUIREMENTS OF THE RFPQ REMAIN UNCHANGED.**

End of Addendum # 1