

Request for Proposals

Study of the Economic Impact of Mineral Exploration to BC and its Communities

January 3, 2019

The Association for Mineral Exploration BC (AME) is the lead association for the mineral exploration and development industry based in British Columbia. Established in 1912, AME represents, advocates and promotes the interests of almost 5,000 members who are engaged in mineral exploration and development in BC and globally. AME encourages a safe, economically strong and environmentally responsible industry by providing clear initiatives, policies, events and tools to support its membership in delivering responsible projects that advance reconciliation and provide benefit to all British Columbians.

AME is requesting proposals to undertake a study of the economic impact of mineral exploration to British Columbia including communities and Indigenous nations across the province. This study will support AME's understanding of the benefits that mineral exploration provides to BC and in turn support AME's work to advocate for our members. This study is primarily intended for AME staff and the board, but some or all of the study may be used in AME documents or publications which may be released to government, Indigenous nations and the public.

Study requirements:

- Compile and assess existing economic data on mineral exploration expenditures in BC from a range of sources including from AME; the BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources; Natural Resources Canada; EY; PwC; Mining Industry Human Resources Council; Resources Works; and the Mining Association of BC.
- Work with selected members of AME to undertake a case-study assessment of the economic impact of selected exploration programs to local communities, Indigenous nations and BC. The case studies will be used to support modelling the impact of a 'typical' exploration program to BC. AME will connect the successful proponent with members who have agreed to provide detailed information on their mineral exploration expenditures for one or more projects. AME will endeavour to provide access to company data that includes small (<\$1 million/year), medium (\$1-3 million/year) and large (>\$3 million/year) exploration projects. The final report should include an analysis of 3-5 projects. The case studies should include an evaluation of the impact across both local and more distal communities in BC and consider direct and indirect impacts. For example, the local impacts may include employment, accommodation and food services, whereas drilling and analytical services may be sourced and benefit communities elsewhere in the province and the head office supports Vancouver's business community including office space, and accounting and legal services.

- Asses the economic impact of mineral exploration to selected BC communities to the extent that the data allows. This could include Vancouver and its business district, Surrey, Victoria, Kamloops, Nelson, Cranbrook, Williams Lake, Quesnel, Prince George, Smithers, and Dease Lake.
- Prepare a model that describes the economic impact of a ‘typical’ exploration program to BC. A ‘typical’ program would be a mid-sized exploration project with an expenditure of \$1-3 million over one year with most services and supplies sourced from British Columbia.
- Consider other values that could be obtained from this study such as the development of transferrable skills, community well-being, opportunities for Indigenous nations, and potential contributions to the green economy.
- A final report that presents and summarizes the key data used in the study and that outlines the overall and community-specific economic impact of mineral exploration to BC and Indigenous nations. The report should describe the case studies that were used and the impact of these case-study exploration programs and present the model that describes the economic impact of a ‘typical’ exploration program to BC and its communities.

Proposal Submission:

Proposals should be submitted to Rob Stevens at rstevens@amebc.ca and provide the following:

- A description of the individual(s) or organization undertaking the study and the related experience with economic studies and analysis that focus on the benefits to communities, particularly related to the natural resources sector.
- A short cv or biography of the principles that will be directly involved in the study.
- A description of the proposed data sources and the methodology that will be used to analyze the data, develop the case studies, and prepare the model of the economic impact of a ‘typical’ exploration program to BC and its communities.
- Any expected limitations to the study.
- A budget.
- A schedule of activities including key milestones and interim reporting/communication schedule to AME. The final report should be submitted by June 30, 2019.
- Proposal submission deadline is February 8, 2019.

Questions:

Please contact Rob Stevens, Vice President Regulatory and Technical Policy at 604-630-3926 or rstevens@amebc.ca