



Invasive Plant Council of British Columbia

Request for Partners on Bio-control Research

July, 2006

Objective

The Invasive Plant Council (IPC) of BC is seeking potential partners for bio-control research. The objective is to increase research capacity and create more information for managing the serious issue of invasive plant introduction and spread in BC. The Council wants to improve current bio-control knowledge through leveraging resources. The Council supports work in both the innovative and classical research for biological control. For this initiative like all other work of the Council, the IPC will not duplicate or subsidize current work but aims to help expand the field of bio-control research to help strengthen a vital management tool for British Columbia.

Key Recipients

BC Universities and Colleges

Background

The Invasive Plant Council of BC is a non-profit organization aimed at improving the coordinated management of invasive plants throughout British Columbia. The Council works to have all agencies and residents working together to minimize both the environmental and economic impacts of these plants to our province. The Council is open to all and works through building collaboration on mutual priorities determined by its diverse membership. The Council's representative Board of Directors works to implement members' key priorities, one of which is research and development. Currently the Council has funds specifically dedicated to bio-control research.

Focus for Project(s)

The Invasive Plant Council of BC is seeking proposals that address current bio-control priorities for BC. One suggested theme is to expand bio-control research for plants that directly impact species or ecosystems at risk. The Council is also open to other projects based on sound rationale as to how they address key bio-control priorities and invasive plant management in BC.

Interested Partners

The Council is prepared to commit up to \$25,000 funding for each project. The intent of this funding is to complement contributions from other potential partners. Funding will be awarded to one or more institutions which can demonstrate clear project outcomes related to BC priorities and their ability to leverage other contributions or funds.

The Council invites you and your institution to submit a proposal (2-5 pages) that includes:

Background

1. Describes the interest of your institution in working with the Council on invasive plants bio-control research.
2. Describes the background of your institution on invasive plants (or rationale as to why you are initiating research).

Project

1. Proposes a project over the next 6 – 18 months that could help advance bio-control in BC, and how this would link to priorities in BC;
2. Provides a rationale for the project;
3. Describes what your institution and/or others will contribute to complement the Council's contribution (cash and in-kind);
4. Provides a clear projected outcome
5. Provides a clear timeline of proposed deliverables; and
6. Clearly states the project lead person and contact information

Review of Proposals

Projects will be approved by the IPC Board based on the recommendations of a panel of bio-control technical experts. The Invasive Plants Council's bio-control panel will assess proposals with regard to:

1. Quality of proposal (e.g., clarity of presentation, attention to BC's or Council's priorities);
2. Expected relevance of deliverables (e.g., practical utility, timing, form of product);
3. Cost-effectiveness (e.g. potential for capacity development and impact); and
4. The ability of the proposal to leverage funds or demonstrates direct financial or other contributions by the organization.

Timeline

Proposals are due October 2, 2006 and may be submitted electronically or by mail. The goal is to review and approve projects by November 10, 2006. There is no specific timeline provided to restrict the completion of projects. The timeline for each proposal needs to be included in the proposal.

The Invasive Plant Council of BC is interested in receiving your proposal. If you have any questions, please call Gail Wallin at (250) 392-1400 or email info@invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca .

Henry Benskin and Dave Polster
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