

2017

Consulting Engineers of Ontario (CEO)
in partnership with the
Municipal Engineers Association (MEA)

**CLIENT/ENGINEER AGREEMENT
FOR
PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES**

[NAME OF PROJECT]

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**AGREEMENT
FOR
PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES**

Dated the ____ day of _____ A. D. 20__

-BETWEEN-

THE CORPORATION OF _____

Hereinafter called the 'Client'

THE PARTY OF THE FIRST PART

-AND-

Hereinafter called the 'Engineer'

THE PARTY OF THE SECOND PART

WHEREAS the Client intends to (Description of Project)

Hereinafter called the 'Project' and has requested the Engineer to furnish professional services in connection therewith.

NOW THEREFORE WITNESSETH that in consideration of the covenants contained herein, the Client and the Engineer mutually agree as follows:

DEFINITIONS

1. **Engineer**

In this Agreement, the word Engineer shall mean professionals and other specialists engaged by the Client directly and whose names are party to this Agreement.

2. **Services -**

3. **RFP -**

4. **Addenda –**

5. **Order of Precedence:**

- i. Addendums
- ii. Request for Proposal issued
- iii. Proposal submission document including detailed Work Plan and Fee Estimate

ARTICLE 1 - GENERAL CONDITIONS

1.1 **Retainer**

The Client hereby retains the services of the Engineer in connection with the Project and the Engineer hereby agrees to provide the services described in Schedule 'A' (The Services) for the Project under the general direction and control of the Client.

1.2 **Compensation**

The Client shall pay the Engineer in accordance with the provisions set forth in Article 3. For purposes of this agreement, the basis of payment shall be as specified in Article 3.2.

1.3 **Staff and Methods**

The Engineer shall perform the services under this agreement with the degree of care, skill and diligence normally provided in the performance of such services as contemplated by the agreement at the time such services are rendered and as required by the Professional Engineers Act (RSO 1990, Chapter P.28) and the regulations therein. The Engineer shall employ only competent staff who will be under the supervision of a senior member of the Engineer's staff. The Engineer shall obtain the prior agreement of the Client before making any changes to the staff list after commencement of the Project.

1.4 **Drawings and Documents**

Subject to Section 3.2.4 of Article 3, drawings and documents or copies thereof required for the Project shall be exchanged between the parties on a reciprocal basis. Documents prepared by the Engineer for the Client may be used by the Client, for the Project herein described, including "record" drawings. The Client has ownership of the drawings and the client indemnifies the Engineer for unauthorized use of the documents and deliverables.

1.5 **Intellectual Property**

All concepts, products or processes produced by or resulting from the Services rendered by the Engineer in connection with the Project, or which are otherwise developed or first reduced to practice by the Engineer in the performance of his Services, and which are patentable, capable of trademark or otherwise, shall be and remain the property of the Engineer.

The Client shall have permanent non-exclusive royalty-free license to use any concept, product or process, which is patentable, capable of trademark or otherwise produced by or resulting from the Services rendered by the Engineer in connection with the Project and for no other purpose or project.

1.6 **Records and Audit**

- a) In order to provide data for the calculation of fees on a time basis, the Engineer shall keep a detailed record of the hours worked by staff employed for the Project.
- b) The Client may inspect timesheets and record of expenses and disbursements of the Engineer during regular office hours with respect to any item which the Client is required to pay on a time scale or disbursement basis as a result of this Agreement.

- c) The Engineer, when requested by the Client, shall provide copies of receipts with respect to any disbursement for which the Engineer claims payment under this Agreement.
- d) For seven (7) years after the expiry date or any date of termination of the Agreement, the Engineer shall maintain all necessary records to substantiate i) all charges and payments under the Agreement and ii) that all deliverables were provided in accordance with the Agreement.

1.7 **Changes and Alterations and Additional Services**

With the consent of the Engineer, the Client may in writing at any time after the execution of the Agreement or the commencement of the Services delete, extend, increase, vary or otherwise alter the Services forming the subject of the Agreement, and if such action by the Client necessitates additional staff or services, the Engineer shall be paid in accordance with Section 3.2.2.1 for such additional staff employed directly thereon, together with such expenses and disbursements as allowed under Section 3.2.4, or as otherwise agreed in writing between the parties

1.8 **Delays**

In the event that the start of the project is delayed for sixty (60) days or more for reasons beyond the control of the consultant, the Engineer shall have the right to renegotiate the agreement before the commencement of the project.

1.9 **Suspension or Termination**

The Client may at any time by notice in writing suspend or terminate the Services or any portion thereof at any stage of the project. Upon receipt of such written notice, the Engineer shall perform no further Services other than those reasonably necessary to close out his Services. In such an event, the Engineer shall be entitled to payment in accordance with Section 3.2 for any of the Engineer's staff employed directly thereon together with such expenses and disbursements allowed under Section 3.2.

If the Engineer is practicing as an individual and dies before his Services have been completed, this Agreement shall terminate as of the date of his death, and the Client shall pay for the Services rendered and disbursements incurred by the Engineer to the date of such termination.

1.10 **Indemnification**

The Engineer shall indemnify and save harmless the Client from and against all claims, actions, losses, expenses, costs or damages of every nature and kind whatsoever which the Client, his employees, officers or agents may suffer, to the extent the Engineer is legally liable as a result of the negligent acts of the Engineer, his employees, officers or agents in the performance of this Agreement.

The Client agrees to hold harmless, indemnify and defend the Engineer from and against any and all claims, actions, losses, expenses, costs or damages of every nature including liability and costs of defense arising out of or in any way connected with the presence, discharge, release or escape of contaminants of any kind, excluding only such liability as may arise out of the negligent acts of the Engineer in the performance of consulting services to the Client within this project.

1.11 **Insurance**

The Client will accept the insurance coverage amount specified in this clause section (a) and (b) or as specified in the RFP as the aggregate limit of liability of the Engineer for Clients damages.

- a) Comprehensive General Liability and Automobile Insurance

The Insurance Coverage shall be \$_____ per occurrence and in the aggregate for general liability and \$_____ for automobile insurance. When requested, the Engineer shall provide the Client with proof of Comprehensive General Liability and Automobile Insurance (Inclusive Limits) for both owned and non-owned vehicles.

b) Professional Liability Insurance

The Insurance Coverage shall be in the amount of \$_____ per claim and in the aggregate. When requested, the Engineer shall provide to the Client proof of Professional Liability Insurance carried by the Engineer, and in accordance with Professional Engineers Act (RSO 1990, Chapter P.28) and Regulations therein.

c) Additional Coverage

If the Client requests to have the amount of coverage increased from that detailed in the RFP, or requests other special insurance for this Project then the Engineer shall endeavour forthwith to obtain such additional or special insurance at the Client's expense as a disbursement allowed under Section 3.2.

It is understood and agreed that the coverage provided by these policies will not be changed or amended in any way nor cancelled by the Engineer until (30) days after written notice of such change or cancellation has been delivered to and acknowledged by the Client.

1.12 **Force Majeure**

The Client agrees that the Consultant is not responsible for damages arising directly or indirectly from any delays for causes beyond the Consultant's control. For purposes of this Agreement, such causes include, but are not limited to, strikes or other labour disputes; severe weather disruptions or other natural disasters or acts of God; fires; riots, war or other emergencies; failure of performance by the Client or the Client's contractors or consultants; or discovery of any hazardous substances or differing site conditions.

In addition, if such delays resulting from any such causes increase the cost or time required by the Consultant to perform its services in an orderly and efficient manner, the Consultant shall be entitled to a reasonable adjustment in schedule and compensation.

1.13 **Contracting for Construction**

The Engineer or any person, firm or corporation associated or affiliated with or subsidiary to the Engineer shall not tender for the construction of the Project, or have an interest either directly or indirectly in the construction of the Project.

1.14 **Assignment**

Neither party may assign this Agreement or any portion thereof without the prior consent in writing of the other party.

1.15 **Previous Agreements**

This Agreement supersedes all previous agreements, arrangements or understandings between the parties whether written or oral in connection with or incidental to the Project.

1.16 **Approval by Other Authorities**

Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement, where the work of the Engineer is subject to the approval or review of an authority, department of government, or agency other than the Client, such applications for approval or review shall be the responsibility of the Engineer, but shall be submitted through the offices of the Client and unless authorized by the Client in writing, such applications for approval or review shall not

be obtained by direct contact by the Engineer with such other authority, department of government or agency. Costs for all application fees shall be borne by the Client unless otherwise provided for by the Engineer. The foregoing in no way limits the Engineer's responsibility to identify, understand and coordinate any and all approvals and permits required for the Project unless otherwise specified in the RFP or agreed to by the Client.

1.17 **Sub-Consultants**

The Engineer may engage Sub-Consultants for specialized services provided that prior approval is obtained, in writing, from the Client and may add a mark-up of not more than 5% of the cost of such services to cover office administration costs when claiming reimbursement from the Client.

1.18 **Inspection (Review by the Client)**

The Client, or persons authorized by the Client, shall have the right, at all reasonable times, to inspect or otherwise review the Services performed, or being performed, under the Project and the premises where they are being performed.

1.19 **Publication**

The Engineer agrees to obtain the consent in writing of the Client before publishing or issuing any information regarding the Project.

1.20 **Confidential Data**

The Engineer shall not divulge any specific information identified as confidential, communicated to or acquired by him, or disclosed by the client in the course of carrying out the Services provided for herein. These obligations of confidentiality shall not apply to information which is in the public domain, which is provided to the Engineer by a third party without obligation of confidentiality, which is independently developed by the Engineer without access to the Client's information, or which is required to be disclosed by law or court order. No such information shall be used by the Engineer on any other project without the approval in writing of the Client.

1.21 **Dispute Resolution**

- 1) Negotiation
 - a) In the event a matter of difference between the Consultant and the Client in relation to the Contract the grieved party shall send a notice in writing of dispute to the other party which contains the particulars of the matter in dispute and the relevant provisions of the Contract Documents. The responding party shall send a reply in writing to the dispute within ten (10) business days after receipt of the notice of dispute setting out particulars of this response and any relevant provisions of the Contract Documents.
 - b) The Consultant and the Client shall make all reasonable efforts to resolve their dispute by amicable negotiations and agree to provide, without prejudice, frank, candid and timely disclosure of any and all relevant facts, information, and documents to facilitate these negotiations.

- c) In the event of failure by the Consultant and the Client to reach agreement within ten (10) business days of receipt of the responding party's reply, or if either party concludes that further negotiation is unlikely to result in agreement, the matter shall be referred to mediation as provided in Section 2 herein.
- 2) Mediation
- a) The Consultant and the Client shall jointly select an impartial Mediator who shall be, preferably, properly qualified in the area of work as contemplated by this Contract. In the event that the parties, acting reasonably, cannot agree on a mediator, the candidates selected by the parties shall, acting reasonably, choose a third party to act as the Mediator.
 - b) The Mediator shall meet with the parties within ten (10) business days after the selection of the Mediator selection to attempt to mediate and resolve the dispute. The Consultant and the Client shall observe such reasonable procedures for conducting the mediation as the Mediator may reasonably request.
 - c) If not agreement is reached within twenty (20) business days of the selection of the Mediator or if either party concludes that further mediation is unlikely to result in agreement, then either the Consultant or the Client may request the Mediator to recommend (and only recommend) a basis, or bases, for resolution of the dispute. The Mediator shall, after consideration of the parties' positions and written submissions (if so requested), issue a written recommendation in this regard. Any recommended basis for resolution shall have absolutely no binding effect upon either party unless both parties agree to accept it and shall be without prejudice to the parties' positions in any further proceeding.
 - d) If no agreement is reached either party may refer such matter as is arbitrable to arbitration as provided in Section 3 herein or exercise any legal rights it may have.
 - e) All meetings and proceedings shall be held in municipality of the Client or a reasonable alternate at a time and location as determined by the parties.
- 3) The costs and expenses of the Mediator shall be shared equally by the Consultant and the Client
- Arbitration
- a) In the event that the parties are unable to settle any dispute between them which is under mediation, either party may refer such matter to arbitration as provided herein:
 - i. The Client and the Consultant shall select an arbitrator within ten (10) business days of the submission of a dispute to arbitration under this Section. If the parties are unable to agree on a neutral arbitrator, each party shall appoint an arbitrator within ten (10) business days, and the two (2) arbitrators so chosen shall select a third arbitrator acceptable to both of them within a further ten (10) business days.
 - ii. The arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Arbitration Act, 1991*, S.O. 1991, C.17, unless the parties otherwise agree. If the issue in dispute is particularly time sensitive, the parties shall, in good faith, take such reasonable steps as may be required to expedite the arbitration process. In any event, all disputes shall be submitted to the arbitrator within thirty (30) calendar days of the selection of the arbitrator. All arbitration meetings and proceedings shall be held in municipality of the Client or a reasonable alternate, at a time and location determined by the parties, but in any event no later than thirty (30) calendar days following the submission of the dispute to the arbitrator.

- iii. In addition to the examination of the parties by each other, the arbitration panel may examine, in the ordinary course, the parties or either of them and the witnesses in the matter referred to the arbitration panel, and the parties and witnesses, if examined, shall be examined on oath or affirmation.
- iv. The arbitration panel shall, after full consideration of the issues in dispute, the relevant facts and applicable law, render a decision within thirty (30) calendar days after argument of the issue to the arbitrator, which decision shall be final and binding on the parties and not subject to appeal or challenge, except such limited relief provided under Subsection 45(1) (appeal on a question of law, with leave) or Section 46 (setting aside award) of the *Arbitration Act, 1991*.
- v. Each party shall bear its own costs and expenses incurred in the arbitration, and the parties shall share equally in the costs and expenses of the neutral arbitrator.
- vi. Any award of the arbitration panel may, at the instance of either of the parties to this Agreement and without notice to the other of them, be made an Order of the Superior Court of Ontario, pursuant to the *Arbitration Act, 1991* and the *Courts of Justice Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.C-43*.

1.22 **Time**

The Engineer shall perform the Services in accordance with the requirements of Schedule A and shall complete any portion or portions of the Services in such order as the Client may require.

The Client shall give due consideration to all designs, drawings, plans, specifications, reports, tenders, proposals and other information submitted by the Engineer, and shall make any decisions which he is required to make in connection therewith within a reasonable time so as not to delay the work of the Engineer.

1.23 **Estimates, Schedules and Staff List**

1.23.1 Preparation of Estimate of Fees, Schedule of Progress and Staff List

When requested by the Client, and where payment is calculated on a time basis, the Engineer shall provide, for approval by the Client:

- a) An estimate of the total fees to be paid for the Services.
- b) A Schedule showing an estimate of the portion of the Services to be completed in each month and an estimate of the portion of the fee which will be payable for each such month.
- c) A Staff list showing the number, classifications and hourly rate ranges for staff, Principals and Executives, for which the Engineer will seek payment on a time basis. The Engineer shall relate such information to the particular type of work that such staff is to perform, while employed on the Project. Such list shall designate the member of the Engineer's staff who is to be the liaison person between the Engineer and the Client.

1.23.2 Subsequent Changes in the Estimate of Fees, Schedule of Progress and Staff List

The Engineer will require prior written approval from the Client for any of the following changes:

- a) Any increase in the estimated fees beyond those approved under Subsection 1.23.1 (a).
- b) Any change in the schedule at progress which results in a longer period than provided in Subsection 1.23.1 (b).
- c) Any change in the number, classification and hourly rate ranges of the staff provided under Subsection 1.23.1 (c).

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1.23.3 Monthly Reporting of Progress

When requested by the Client, the Engineer shall provide the Client with a written report showing the portion of the Services completed in the preceding month.

1.24 Additional Conditions

Any requirements regarding insurance, WSIB, permits, approvals, AODA, etc. to be listed here.

ARTICLE 2 – SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED

- 2.01 Services to be provided by Engineer as detailed in the RFP and as provided for in the Engineer's Proposal.
- 2.02 Services to be provided by Client as detailed in the RFP and as provided for in the Engineer's Proposal.

ARTICLE 3 - FEES AND DISBURSEMENTS

3.1 Definitions

For the purpose of this Agreement, the following definitions shall apply:

a) Cost of the Work:

- i. The "Cost of the Work" shall mean the total construction cost of the Project including all materials, equipment, sales taxes, labour and contractor's overhead and profit, necessary to complete the work for which the Engineer prepares designs, drawings or specifications, for which he is responsible. Where sales taxes are not included in the cost of the work, the fee shall be adjusted upwards by the factor equivalent to the sales taxes. The adjusted fee may be computed to the nearest one-tenth of one percent (1/10%).
- ii. Wherever the Client furnishes labour or other service which is incorporated in the work, the current price of labour or other service when the work was executed shall be used to compute the Cost of the Work.
- iii. Whenever used materials or equipment is furnished by or on behalf of the Client, the fair market value of such materials or equipment, as though it was purchased new, shall be used to compute the Cost of the Work.
- iv. In computing the Cost of the Work, no deductions shall be made on account of any penalties or damages claimed by the Client from any contractor or on account of any other sum withheld from any contractor.
- v. The Cost of the Work shall not include any fees and disbursements due to the Engineer, the Client's engineering and office expenses, or cost of land.

b) Site:

Site includes the actual work site and other locations where the checking of materials, equipment and workmanship is carried out.

3.2 Basis of Payment (Strike out those that do not apply)

3.2.1 Fees Calculated on a Percentage of Cost Basis

The Client shall pay the Engineer fees to be calculated as a percentage of the Cost of the Work for normal projects as follows:

CALCULATION OF FEE

| TYPE OF SERVICE | PERCENTAGE |
|-----------------|------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

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3.2.2 Fees Calculated on a Time Basis

3.2.2.1 Fees

The Client shall pay the Engineer a fee, calculated on a time basis, for that part of the Services described in Article 2. Fees on a time basis for all staff shall be hourly rates based on job classifications as follows:

Grade: Hourly Rate:

For a project of over one (1) year duration, or for projects which become extended beyond one (1) year in duration, the Engineer may from time to time seek approval from the Client to adjust hourly rates and such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

3.2.2.2 Time Expended

All time expended on the assignment, whether in the Engineer's office, at the Client's premises, or elsewhere, and including travel time, shall be chargeable.

3.2.3 Lump Sum Fee

3.2.3.1 Lump Sum Fee Basis

- a) Fees for the scope of work covered under this Agreement will be on a Lump Sum Price Basis, inclusive of labour, disbursements and reimbursable expenses.
- b) Monthly progress invoices will be based on the percentage of project completed or milestone achieved as detailed in the RFP. Invoices for fees are due upon presentation. Accounts unpaid after 30 days are subject to monthly interest charges at a rate of ___% per annum. The Engineer reserves the right, without penalty, to discontinue services in the event of non-payment after a sixty (60) period from the date of the invoice.
- c) If the project is abandoned or delayed for any reason beyond the Engineer's control, the Client shall pay a fee for services rendered to that date, plus the termination expenses reasonably incurred by the Engineer in winding down the project.
- d) HST will be added to the Lump Sum Price.

3.2.4 Reimbursable Expenses

In addition to the fee, the Engineer shall be reimbursed at cost plus an administrative charge of 5%, for all expenses and disbursements properly incurred by the Consultant in connection with the project.

3.2.5 Upset Cost Limit

- (a) The Consultant shall be paid a fee, calculated on a time basis, for the Services.
- (b) In addition to the fee, the Consultant shall be reimbursed at cost plus an administrative charge of 5% for all reasonable expenses properly incurred by them in connection with the Services, including but not limited to: vehicle use charges, traveling and living expenses, long distance telephone charges, report production costs, photography, special delivery charges, supplies and equipment, field equipment costs, laboratory costs. Computer and office charges are considered part of overhead and shall not be invoiced as disbursements.
- (c) Notwithstanding Subsections (a) and (b) of this Section, the total fees and disbursements paid by the Client to the Consultant for the Services shall not exceed the total upset amount of \$_____ plus applicable taxes made up as follows:

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- (i) \$_____ plus applicable taxes for Core Services as described in Schedule A; and,
- (ii) \$_____ plus applicable taxes as a Contingency Allowance for Additional Services that may be required but are not included in Schedule A.
- (d) Notwithstanding Subsections (a) and (b) of this Section, the Client, at its sole discretion, may limit the fees and disbursements paid by the Client to the percentage equivalent to the project complete in the opinion of the Client.
- (e) The Consultant must request and receive the written approval of the Client before any Additional Services are carried out that are not included in Schedule A. The Consultant shall not be entitled to any payment from the Contingency Allowance unless the Consultant has satisfied this condition. When approving Additional Services that are not included in Schedule A, the Client, at its sole discretion, may, in writing, set a limit on the monies from the Contingency Allowance that may be permitted for the requested Additional Services.

3.3 **Payment**

3.3.1 **Fees Calculated on a Time Basis**

The Engineer shall submit an invoice to the Client for all Services completed in the immediately preceding month. Interest at the annual rate of ____ percent (____ percent monthly) will be paid on the total outstanding unpaid balance commencing 30 days after the Client has received the Engineer's invoice.

3.3.2 **Fees Calculated on a Percentage of Cost Basis**

a) Monthly Payment

The Engineer shall submit an invoice to the Client for that part of the design of the Project completed in the immediately preceding month calculated upon the basis of the Engineer's estimate of the cost of that part of the Project, and, if the Client agrees with such estimate and that such part has been completed, the Engineer will be paid the amount of the fee so invoiced. Interest at the annual rate of ____ percent (____ percent monthly) will be paid on the total outstanding unpaid balance commencing 30 days after the Client has received the Engineers' invoice.

b) On Award of Contract

Following the award of the contract for the construction of the Project, the Engineer shall recalculate his fee on the basis of the tender quantities and prices on which the contract for the construction of the Project was awarded, plus the estimated cost of materials and other services supplied by the Client and upon such recalculation, the amount paid to the Engineer shall be adjusted to equal the full amount of the recalculated fee including the repayment by the Engineer of any overpayment made to the Engineer.

c) Delay of Award of Contract

In the event the contract for construction of the Project is not awarded within ____ months of the acceptance of the Design by the Client the final fee for design shall be determined as in paragraph (a) above, and paragraph (b) shall not apply.

Further services for the Project beyond the ____ months will be undertaken on a time basis.

d) On Completion of the Work

Following Completion of the Work, the Engineer shall recalculate his fee on the basis of the actual cost of the work and upon such recalculation the amount paid to the Engineer shall be adjusted to equal the full amount of the recalculated fee including the repayment by the Engineer of any overpayment to the Engineer.

3.3.3 Terms of Payment

The Client will compensate the Engineer in accordance with the fees and charges for services as set out in the proposal or as otherwise mutually agreed. All fees and charges will be payable in Canadian funds unless noted otherwise. Invoices will be due and payable, as presented and without hold-backs, by the Client upon receipt. Interest on overdue accounts will be charged at the rate of _____% per annum.

ARTICLE 4 – FORM OF AGREEMENT

ENGINEER: _____

The signatory shall have the authority to bind the corporation or company for the purposes of this agreement.

This ____ Day of _____, 20__

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Signature | |
| Name | |
| Title | |

THE CORPORATION OF _____

The signatory shall have the authority to bind the municipality or its agency for the purposes of this agreement.

This ____ Day of _____, 20__

| | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|--|
| Signature | | Signature | |
| Name | | Name | |
| Title | | Title | |

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ARTICLE 5 – ATTACHMENTS

Attach copies of Request for Proposal and Proposal Submission documents if required.

SCHEDULE "A"

IF REQUIRED