



National Defence

Défense nationale

National Defence Headquarters
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K2

Quartier général de la Défense nationale
Ottawa (Ontario)
K1A 0K2

**ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE
PRÉAVIS D'ATTRIBUTION DE
CONTRAT**

**RETURN STATEMENT OF
CAPABILITIES TO:
RETOURNER RENVOYER LA
DÉCLARATION DE CAPACITÉS
À :**

**Contact : Paige Morris
Email : Paige.Morris@forces.gc.ca**

Proposal To: National Defence Canada

We hereby offer to sell to Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada, in accordance with the terms and conditions set out herein, referred to herein or attached hereto, the goods and services listed herein and on any attached sheets at the price(s) set out therefore.

Proposition à : Défense nationale Canada

Nous offrons par la présente de vendre à Sa Majesté la Reine du chef du Canada, aux conditions énoncées ou incluses par référence dans la présente et aux annexes ci-jointes, les biens et services énumérés ici et sur toute feuille ci-annexée, au(x) prix indiqué(s).

**Solicitation Closes –
L’invitation prend fin**

At – à : October 10th, 2023 2:00 EDT

On - le : octobre 10, 2023 @ 2:00 HAE

Title/Titre Vegetarian/Kosher/Halal Rations Rations végétariennes/casher/halal		Solicitation No – No de l’invitation W8486-23SPOK
Date of Solicitation – Date de l’invitation 2023-09-25		
Address Enquiries to – Adresser toutes questions à Paige.Morris@forces.gc.ca		
Telephone No. – N° de téléphone 343-552-7713		FAX No – N° de fax
Destination N/A		

Instructions:

Municipal taxes are not applicable. Unless otherwise specified herein all prices quoted must include all applicable Canadian customs duties, GST/HST, excise taxes and are to be delivered Delivery Duty Paid including all delivery charges to destination(s) as indicated. The amount of the Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax is to be shown as a separate item.

Instructions: Les taxes municipales ne s'appliquent pas. Sauf indication contraire, les prix indiqués doivent comprendre les droits de douane canadiens, la TPS/TVH et la taxe d'accise. Les biens doivent être livrés « rendu droits acquittés », tous frais de livraison compris, à la ou aux destinations indiquées. Le montant de la taxe sur les produits et services/taxe de vente harmonisée doit être indiqué séparément.

Delivery required - Livraison exigée N/A	Delivery offered - Livraison proposée
Vendor Name and Address - Raison sociale et adresse du fournisseur	
Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of vendor (type or print) - Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du fournisseur (caractère d'imprimerie)	
Name/Nom _____	Title/Titre _____
Signature _____	Date _____

1. Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN)

An ACAN is a public notice indicating to the supplier community that a department or agency intends to award a contract for goods, services or construction to a pre-identified supplier, thereby allowing other suppliers to signal their interest in bidding, by submitting a statement of capabilities. If no supplier submits a statement of capabilities that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, on or before the closing date stated in the ACAN, the contracting officer may then proceed with the award to the pre-identified supplier.

2. Definition of the requirement

The Department of National Defence (DND) has a requirement to supply of 2600 cases of Vegetarian/Kosher/Halal rations. Each item must be kosher certified by a kashruth agency and approved by the Organization of Orthodox Kashruth Supervision. Each item also must be certified halal and Dhabiha halal, and meet strict Islamic halal standards established by the Islamic Food and Nutrition Council of America (IFANCA). The management of three separate types of ration packs (vegetarian, kosher, and halal) is not currently possible in an operational theatre. DND is looking to obtain reference number 16816-59994, or equivalent. The current part number is owned by My Own Meals INC.

3. Criteria for assessment of the Statement of Capabilities (Minimum Essential Requirements)

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that its product meets the requirements stated in Annex A – Statement of Requirement.

4. Applicability of the trade agreement(s) to the procurement

This procurement is subject to the following trade agreement(s):

Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA)

5. Justification for the Pre-Identified Supplier

The pre-identified supplier is the only known supplier who can provide dual-certified Halal and Kosher vegetarian ration packs.

6. Government Contracts Regulations Exception(s)

The following exception(s) to the Government Contracts Regulations is (are) invoked for this procurement under subsection 6(d) - "only one person is capable of performing the work."

7. Exclusions and/or Limited Tendering Reasons

Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) – Article 513: 1. (b) (iii). Limited Tendering

8. Period of the proposed contract or delivery date

The goods must be delivered on or before December 14th, 2023.

9. Cost estimate of the proposed contract

The estimated value of the contract, is \$670,903.41 CAD (GST/QST included).

Name and address of the pre-identified supplier

Name: My Own Meals, Inc.

Address: 400 Lake Cook Road, Suite 107

PO box 334

Deerfield, IL 60015

Phone: (847) 948-1118

Fax: (847)948-0468

10. Suppliers' right to submit a statement of capabilities

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the goods described in the ACAN may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the contact person identified in this notice on or before the closing date of this notice. The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

11. Closing date for a submission of a statement of capabilities

The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is October 10th, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. EST.

12. Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be directed to:

Paige Morris, A/DLP 6-3-1
101 Colonel By Drive,
Ottawa ON K1A 0K2
E-mail: Paige.Morris@forces.gc.ca
Phone: 343-552-7713

Annex A – Statement of Requirement for Vegetarian/halal/kosher ration packs

1. Objective

This ACAN provides information on the Canadian Armed Forces' (CAF) requirement for a retort pouch and associated accessory kit that are vegetarian and also certified Kosher and Halal.

2. Background

The CAF has a duty to accommodate soldiers with particular dietary needs related to vegetarianism or religion; specifically, the CAF must provide rations that are certified Kosher and Halal. The management of three separate types of ration packs (vegetarian, Kosher, and Halal) is not currently possible in an operational theatre, so the requirement is defined as one retort pouch and accessory kit that is vegetarian and certified Kosher and Halal.

3. Requirements

3.1 Scope of Work and Tasks

The contractor must produce and ship ration packs in accordance with the requirements identified in Annex A, Statement of Requirement Vegetarian/halal/kosher ration packs, Appendix 1, Specifications for the retort pouch, accessory kit and packaging.

3.2 Quantities

The Contractor must provide 2600 cases of vegetarian/Kosher/Halal ration packs in accordance with the requirements identified in Annex A, statement of Requirement Vegetarian/halal/kosher ration packs, Appendix 1, Specifications for the retort pouch, accessory kit and packaging.

4 Constraints

4.1 Quality

The Contractor must seal all retort pouches hermetically and apply a retort process to each of them.

5 Religious Certifications

5.1 The Contractor must be responsible for obtaining the services of a recognized Kosher supervision agency that is prepared to meet the requirements for Kosher certification and a recognized Halal supervision agency that is prepared to meet the requirements for Halal certification. The Contractor must be responsible for ensuring that appropriate Kosher and/or Halal guidelines are followed for all meal components.

5.2 The Contractor must ensure that the Kosher and Halal inspectors are fully familiar with all relevant aspects of the production. Certificates of compliance testifying that all ingredients meet Kosher and Halal requirements must be provided no later than ten days following contract award. The Kosher and Halal inspectors may provide a list of ingredients not requiring certification. Items requiring Kosher and/or Halal inspection must not be used prior to approval.

5.3 Materials and packaging may, at the discretion of the Kosher and/or Halal inspectors, require controlled storage and may need to be released for each day's production by the Kosher and/or Halal inspectors. Only equipment that has been approved by Kosher and Halal inspectors must be used. These procedures must be documented by the Contractor in conjunction with the Kosher and Halal inspectors.

5.4 All packaging and transportation of foods must be in packages, containers, vessels, or vehicles that have been properly prepared according to the Kosher and Halal requirements.

- 5.5 Packaging and labeling materials must be controlled and segregated in such a way that only the Kosher and Halal inspectors can release that material for the day's production.
- 5.6 Kosher and Halal inspectors must have access to all parts of production and storage facilities at all times.
- 5.7 Records of attendance of the Kosher and Halal inspectors at the production facility, or at any sub-contractor's facility, must be maintained and provided to the Contracting Authority, Procurement Authority or Technical Authority upon request.

Appendix 1 to Annex A Retort Pouch, Accessory Kit, and Associated Packaging Specification

This appendix describes the requirements for the retort pouch, accessory kit, and associated packaging.

1. Combined Requirement

- 1.1 Each ration pack must consist of a main meal entrée in a retort pouch, and an accessory kit of miscellaneous food items to ensure that the nutritional requirement for each meal is met.
- 1.2 The total caloric value of the ration pack (main meal + accessory pack) must not be lower than 1100 calories.
- 1.3 All items contained in the ration pack, including the retort pouch and accessory kit, must be vegetarian, and certified Halal and Kosher according to Annex A, Statement of Requirement Vegetarian/Halal/Kosher Ration Packs, paragraph 5, Religious Certifications.

2. Retort Pouch Specifications

- 2.1 The retort pouch must be a commercially sold product.
- 2.2 The retort pouch must have a shelf life of a minimum of three years.

3. Product Descriptions for Retort Pouch Meals

- 3.1 Main meal retort pouch must have a minimum post-retort weight of 227g.
- 3.2 The total caloric value of the main meal retort pouch must be at least 180 calories.
- 3.3 Each case of retort pouch meals must contain three retort pouches for each of the four meals (three pasta meals and one meal of vegetarian stew) for a total of twelve retort pouches per case.

4. Accessory Kit Specifications

- 4.1 All items in the accessory kit must have a shelf life of a minimum of one year.
- 4.2 The accessory pack must at least contain the following: beverage mix, cereal, granola bar, candy/mint, peanuts, seeds, dried fruit, a spoon and toilet paper. Other items not listed can be included in the accessory pack.
- 4.3 The total caloric value of the accessory pack must be at least 920 calories.

5. Packaging Specifications

- 5.1 The language on all packaging must be English, and it is desirable that French translations are also present.
- 5.2 Each shipping case must contain two separate cases; one case containing twelve retorted main meals and the other case containing twelve accessory packs.
- 5.3 Accessory pack items must be packaged in a clear bag.
- 5.4 Each retort pouch case of must contain three meals or each of the four menus.
- 5.5 Each ration pack pallet must contain thirty boxes (30 cases/pallet).