

2026-09-26

Request for Proposal

Project: Water and Wastewater Operating Authority

ADDENDUM 16-2026-003

- Q1 Appendix G-Submission Checklist of the main RFP indicates that the Fee Proposal/pricing information must be combined with the Technical Proposal into a single document. Can you confirm that this is correct?
- A1 The Fee Proposal should be submitted as a separate document from the Technical Proposal
- Q2 Can you clarify whether Appendix Forms B through F, as listed in Appendix G-Submission Checklist, are to be placed after the Proposal document in the final submission?
- A2 The Municipality has no specific requirement regarding the placement of Appendix Forms B through F. Proponents may include these forms after the Proposal document or elsewhere within their submission, provided all required forms are completed and clearly identified.
- Q3 Section 1.7 RFP Timetable lists August 19, 2026, as the deadline for submitting questions. OCWA has been advised that the earliest available date for a site visit of the water and wastewater facilities is Tuesday, August 18 and Wednesday August 19, 2026. As a result, we are concerned that any questions arising from the site visit may not be compiled and submitted to the Municipality before the current question deadline. Would the Municipality consider extending the deadline for questions to Friday, August 21, 2026?
- A3 This question was addressed in Addendum 16-2026-001. As outlined in that addendum, the Municipality extended the deadline for submission of questions. Proponents are directed to Addendum 16-2026-001 for full details.
- Q4 Section 4.5.1.1 Organization Experience of the main RFP indicates that Proponents must provide details regarding the methodology/approach to carrying out work for each project description and client reference. Can the Municipality clarify what specific information or level of detail is expected for the methodology/approach description?
- A4 The Municipality is not prescribing a specific format, methodology, or level of detail for this section. Proponents should provide information they consider relevant to demonstrate their organization's experience and approach to delivering services similar in scope and complexity to those contemplated under this RFP. The Municipality will assess the information provided in accordance with the evaluation criteria set out in the RFP.

- Q5 Source Water PFAS/PFOS Assessment: To evaluate the potential risk of Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS/PFOS) in drinking water treatment, are any of the raw water intake zones—Skookum Bay (Red Lake), Bruce Channel (Cochénour), or Russet Lake (Madsen)—located near or downstream from active or historical potential PFAS/PFOS source areas (e.g., firefighting training grounds, active or legacy airport runways, military installations, industrial manufacturing, or waste disposal sites)?
- A5 The Municipality is located within an active and historical mining region. Based on information currently available to the Municipality, no known PFAS/PFOS contamination sources have been identified within or immediately upstream of the Skookum Bay (Red Lake), Bruce Channel (Cochénour), or Russet Lake (Madsen) raw water intake areas. Proponents should undertake their own assessment of potential source water risks and consider any applicable regulatory requirements in developing their proposal.
- Q6 Wastewater Collection PFAS/PFOS Assessment: Does the municipal sewage collection system receive, or has it historically received, sewer discharges from sites associated with PFAS/PFOS usage, such as airport maintenance facilities, firefighting training structures, manufacturing operations, or active/closed landfills?
- A6 The Municipality is located within an active and historical mining region. Based on information currently available to the Municipality, no known PFAS/PFOS-specific sources or discharges have been identified within the municipal wastewater collection system service area. The Municipality is not aware of current or historical sewer discharges from facilities specifically associated with PFAS/PFOS usage.
- Q7 PFAS/PFOS Sampling History: Has the Municipality or the current Operating Authority conducted any sampling or received testing results for PFAS or PFOS substances in raw water, treated drinking water, or wastewater effluent? If such data exists, could the Municipality share these analytical results with proponents?
- A7 No. The Municipality is not aware of any PFAS/PFOS sampling or monitoring that has been conducted by the Municipality or the current Operating Authority for raw water, treated drinking water, or wastewater effluent. As a result, the Municipality has no PFAS/PFOS analytical data available to share with proponents at this time.
- Q8 Raw Water Quality Data Request: To assist us in analyzing chemical dosing requirements, filtration load limits, and seasonal water quality fluctuations, could the Municipality provide historical raw water quality records? We are particularly interested in baseline datasets (but not limited to) for: pH, temperature, alkalinity, true and apparent colour, conductivity, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), iron, manganese, calcium, magnesium, raw water microbiological counts (HPC, E. coli, and Total Coliforms), disinfection by-product (DBP) formation potentials (THMFP, HAAFP), and historical turbidity profiles.
- A8 Historical raw water quality information is available through the Annual Reports for the applicable drinking water systems. Annual Reports for 2021 - 2025 are included with this Addendum for proponents' review. These reports contain water quality monitoring data and operational information relevant to the systems. No additional raw water quality datasets are being provided by the Municipality at this time.
- Q9 What is the final disposition of the sludge and chemical residuals generated at all the Water Treatment Plants (WTPs)? If hauling or tipping fees are involved, could you clarify which party (the Municipality or the Operating Authority) is contractually responsible for covering these disposal costs?

A9 Residuals and sludge generated at the water treatment facilities are currently managed as follows:

- Cochenour Water Treatment Plant: Residuals are discharged to the Cochenour Lagoon.
- Red Lake Water Treatment Plant: Residuals are conveyed to the Rahill Drying Beds.
- Madsen Water Treatment Plant: Residuals are discharged to a communal septic tank.

The Municipality does not incur tipping fees for the current disposal methods. Proponents should include any proposed hauling, disposal, and associated costs within their proposal. The Municipality will evaluate the proposed approach as part of the overall submission.

Q10 The Community Capacity Study notes (p. 118) that the daily water demand for the Red Lake water system fluctuates significantly, varying on average throughout the year from 983 m³/day to 2,290 m³/day. What factors explain this wide variance (e.g., industrial users, seasonal population changes, or water mains bleeders to prevent winter freezing)?

A10 The variation between the average daily demand of approximately 983 m³/day and the peak daily demand of 2,290 m³/day, a factor of 2.33, is considered typical for a community the size and characteristics of Red Lake. Peak day demand can be influenced by a range of factors, including increased customer water use, watermain breaks, system maintenance activities such as flushing, firefighting events, and other operational conditions that may occur periodically throughout the year. The Municipality has not identified specific factors responsible for the peak demand values reflected in the study.

Q11 Have there been discussions or plans to transition from gaseous chlorine to liquid sodium hypochlorite disinfection at the remaining facilities that currently utilize gas chlorine - specifically the Red Lake WTP and the BCMI (Cochenour) WTP- noting that a transition to sodium hypochlorite is already mandated for the Red Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant?

A11 The Municipality has finalised designs and is seeking funding to upgrade the Red Lake WPCP disinfection system and switch to sodium hypochlorite. There are no plans to transition to liquid sodium hypochlorite at the BCMI WTP of Red Lake WTP at this time.

Q12 Are all operators currently trained in changing chlorine gas cylinders? Is all required emergency repair and safety containment equipment (e.g., chlorine B-kits, SCBA) fully available on-site at the Red Lake and BCMI WTPs in case of a gaseous leak?

A12 Approximately half of the current operators are trained in changing chlorine gas cylinders. Required chlorine safety and emergency response equipment, including chlorine repair kits and SCBA equipment, is available at the applicable facilities. Proponents should satisfy themselves regarding training and staffing requirements and include any proposed training, certification, or operational enhancements within their proposal.

Q13 With respect to section 2.5 Instructions on How to Provide Pricing, can the Municipality provide the annual volumes of chemicals used at all the water and wastewater treatment facilities?

Q14 Please provide a list of all chemicals used in each of the treatment plants and historical usage rates?

A13, A14 Chemical consumption volumes fluctuate from year to year based on raw water quality, treatment requirements, seasonal conditions, regulatory requirements, and system demand. Proponents should account for these variables when preparing their pricing submissions.

Information regarding the types of treatment chemicals used at the water and wastewater facilities can be found in the Annual Reports. Annual Reports for 2021 - 2025 are included with this Addendum for proponents' review.

Q15 Following the historical HAA exceedances in 2023 at the BCMI system, what specific operational changes were implemented to address this limit? What is the current running annual average (RAA) of HAAs for 2025/2026, and is there a long-term capital plan or process adjustment in place to prevent future exceedances?

A15 The Municipality is unable to identify the specific operational changes implemented following the 2023 HAA exceedances. Current HAA results are within regulatory limits. The Municipality has not identified a dedicated capital project or planned process modification related specifically to HAA reduction at this time.

Q16 Are the scaffolds and structural elements of the Red Lake Water Tower inspected on a regular basis? If so, what is the frequency of these structural inspections, and which party is responsible for the associated costs?

A16 No. The scaffolding and structural elements of the Red Lake Water Tower are not subject to regular scheduled inspections. The existing scaffolding system was engineered, designed, and professionally stamped. Should proponents identify a need for inspections, assessments, or other maintenance activities as part of their operating approach, they should include these within their proposal. The Municipality will evaluate the proposed approach as part of the overall submission.

Q17 Have any formal odour complaints been registered in the last three (3) years concerning any of the wastewater facilities (such as the Red Lake WPCP, Balmertown WPCP, Cochenour Lagoon, Madsen holding tanks, or municipal lift stations)? If so, could information on the frequency, nature, and resolution of these complaints be provided?

A17 No formal odour complaints have been registered within the past three (3) years. The Municipality may have received occasional informal inquiries or comments regarding odours; however, these were not recorded as formal complaints.

Q18 Does the current operator utilize a Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) to manage work orders, asset conditions, and preventative maintenance history? If so, what software platform is in use, and will the complete historical asset register, condition data, and maintenance records be transferred to the successful proponent at transition?

Q19 Is there a computerized maintenance management system (CMMS) in place for scheduling and tracking all water and wastewater treatment maintenance? If so is it owned by the municipality, or does the contractor need to provide a CMMS system. Will data and records from the current system be provided to the new operator?

A18, A19 No. The current operator does not utilize a computerized maintenance management system (CMMS). Maintenance schedules, records, and related information are maintained using Microsoft Excel and other supporting records.

Relevant maintenance records and data available to the Municipality will be provided to the successful proponent during the transition process. Proponents may propose their own CMMS solution as part of their operating approach, and the Municipality will evaluate the proposed approach as part of the overall submission.

- Q20 The submerged 150 mm watermain crossing the McKenzie Channel represents a critical single point of failure for McKenzie Island's drinking water supply. Could the Municipality provide information on the current condition of this underwater crossing, and clarify if any side-scan sonar, dive inspections, or pressure-testing programs have been conducted on this line recently?
- A20 The submerged watermain crossing the McKenzie Channel is approximately 403 metres long, is constructed of high-density polyethylene (HDPE), and was installed in 1991. No further information regarding its current condition is available. No side-scan sonar surveys, dive inspections, or pressure testing have been conducted on the line.
- Q21 Could the Municipality provide a historical record of all final effluent quality tests conducted at the discharge outlet of the Cochenour Lagoon over the last five (5) years - specifically for Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and including any internal process control tests not formally submitted to the MECP? We are seeking this data to evaluate the exact proportion of seasonal TSS exceedances.
- A21 The Municipality has provided the Annual Reports for 2021 through 2025 as part of the RFP documents and addenda. These reports contain effluent monitoring information submitted to the MECP. The Municipality does not have a consolidated record of additional internal process control testing available for distribution. Proponents are requested to review the information provided and incorporate their own assessment into their submission.
- Q22 When did the last sludge removal and bottom cleanout of the Cochenour Lagoon cells take place? Is there a bathymetric survey or sludge depth measurement report available for review?
- A22 The last sludge removal and lagoon cleanout occurred approximately 25 years ago. A sludge survey was completed in 2025 and will be provided through this addendum for proponents' review.
- Q23 What is the average weekly volume of dewatered grit bags produced at the wastewater plants? We observed that these are disposed of at the Rahill Beach Drying Beds; however, these drying beds do not appear to be explicitly mentioned in the active Environmental Compliance Approvals (ECAs) that were previously included in the RFP documentation. Has the MECP ever inspected the Rahill Beach Drying Beds, and if so, what were the results of those inspections?
- A23 The wastewater treatment facilities generate approximately 54 dewatered grit bags per week on average. The Municipality understands that the Ministry has conducted inspections of the Rahill Beach Drying Beds on an infrequent basis; however, inspection reports or findings are not available for distribution by the Municipality.
- Q24 We understand that the new contract will include the transfer of dried sludge from the Sully Creek drying beds to the municipal landfill. Could you define the exact operational scope of this transfer service (such as haulage distances, expected loading and transportation schedules, and the average volumes/weights transferred over the last three years)?

- A24 The dried sludge transfer from the Sully Creek Drying Beds to the municipal landfill involves an approximate haul distance of 15 km one-way. Sludge is transported on an as-needed basis, depending on operational requirements and accumulation volumes. Historical volume and weight data were not tracked prior to 2025. In 2025, approximately 230 m³ of dried sludge was transferred to the municipal landfill.
- Q25 To help us evaluate baseline operational expenses, would the Municipality be willing to share the past 12 to 24 months of utility and energy bills (specifically electricity, propane, and/or fuel) for each of the water and wastewater treatment plants and major pumping stations?
- Q26 With respect to Section 4.5.6, Financial Reporting, Facility and Building Infrastructure Cost Category, can the Municipality provide the historical costs for electricity and heating fuel from 2025 to the present?
- Q27 Is the operator responsible for the cost of utilities such as hydro, water, heating oil, gas, solid waste tipping fees, etc. if so please provide historical usage rates.
- Q28 With respect to Section 4.5.6, Financial Reporting, Utilities, and Telephone/Internet Services, is the Operating Authority responsible for establishing and maintaining all telephone lines required for the operation of the facilities?
- A25, A26, A27, A28 Total utility costs by system for the years 2022 through 2025 are provided for proponents' review. These costs include the utility expenses recorded by the Municipality for each system during that period. Proponents should use this information as historical reference only and account for future usage, rate changes, and their proposed service delivery model when preparing their pricing. The Operating Authority will be responsible for establishing and maintaining all telephone and internet services required for the operation of the facilities and should include these costs in its proposal
- Q29 Please provide guidance on what costs, if any, (property taxes?) are paid directly by the municipality and do not need to be included in the proposal pricing.
- A29 Proponents should include in their pricing all costs associated with the provision of the services contemplated under the Operating Authority Agreement.
- The Municipality will remain responsible for costs that are not part of the Operating Authority service delivery model, including municipal staff costs, property taxes, long-term debt repayments, reserve and reserve fund transfers, and Municipality-initiated capital projects or special projects unless otherwise expressly identified in the RFP. Proponents should clearly identify any assumptions regarding cost responsibility in their submissions.
- Q30 Can the Municipality confirm if the Drinking Water System Operational Plan published on the Red Lake web portal is the current active version (Revision 8, dated August 9, 2024)? If a newer revision is currently in effect, could the current version be provided?
- A30 Yes. The Drinking Water System Operational Plan (Revision 8, dated August 9, 2024) currently available on the Municipality's website is the current active version.
- Q31 To support our operational risk evaluation, can the Municipality provide the most current documents related to DWQMS Element 8 (Risk Assessment Outcomes) for the three drinking water systems:

- Risk Assessment Outcomes – BCMI [BCMIDWS-QMS-8]
 - Risk Assessment Outcomes – Madsen [MDWS-QMS-8]
 - Risk Assessment Outcomes – Red Lake [RLDWS-QMS-8]
- A31 The requested DWQMS Element 8 Risk Assessment Outcome documents for the Balmertown-Cochénour-McMarmac Integrated Drinking Water System (BCMI), Madsen Drinking Water System, and Red Lake Drinking Water System are attached for proponents' review.
- Q32 The Municipality has published the 2025 Annual Drinking Water System Reports online. To assist our long-term trend analysis, can the Municipality provide the equivalent annual compliance reports for the years 2023 and 2024?
- Q33 Please provide copies of the last 2 years annual reports for each of the wastewater treatment plants
- A32, A33 Copies of all annual reports for the Municipality's water and wastewater treatment facilities for the years 2021 through 2025 are attached for proponents' review.
- Q34 While broader Source Water Protection initiatives are outside our contracted scope, could the Municipality share the active protocols, source protection plans, and specific municipal prescriptions currently in place to protect the raw water intake resources for each system?
- A34 The Municipality does not currently have any active Source Water Protection initiatives, municipal prescriptions, or source protection programs in place beyond applicable regulatory requirements.
- Q35 We understand that a comprehensive operational or performance audit was recently conducted on the water and wastewater systems. Could the Municipality share this audit report with proponents?
- A35 The Municipality will not be providing the referenced operational/performance audit report. The audit was prepared specifically for the Municipality's use in relation to the current Operating Authority arrangement and forms part of the Municipality's internal operational review process.
- Q36 In addition to the Environmental Compliance Approvals (ECA) attachment, can the Municipality please provide the following supporting documentation:
- ECA for Cochénour Lagoon
 - ECA for all sludge beds
 - Consolidated Linear Infrastructure (CLI)-ECA for Cochénour & McKenzie Island Wastewater System
 - ECA and CLI-ECA for Balmertown Wastewater System
 - ECA and CLI-ECA for Madsen Wastewater System
- Q37 The compliance limits and plant details for Balmertown Water Pollution Control Plant (WWTP) are not included in the EnvironmentalComplianceApprovals.pdf within the tender package; and there is no ECA listed on the Ontario Environmental site registry. Can the Municipality provide the ECA or historical Certificate of Approval for Balmertown WWTP?
- Q38 The ECA's provided with the RFP only covered red lake. Please provide the wastewater treatment ECA's for the other systems

A36, A37, A38 All wastewater-related approval documents and supporting records currently held by the Municipality are attached as part of this addendum for proponents' review

Q39 Can the Municipality provide a status update on the CLI-ECA's for all wastewater treatment facilities? Specifically, have all requirements of the CLI-ECA's been satisfied, and have the required CLI reports been completed and submitted to the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)?

A39 The Municipality does not hold CLI-ECA's for wastewater treatment facilities. The Municipality holds a CLI-ECA for the wastewater collection system, including the linear infrastructure and lift stations, which was issued on November 26, 2025. As the applicable reporting deadlines have not yet occurred, no CLI-ECA reports have been required or submitted to the MECP at this time

Q40 The RFP specifies in 4.1 that the Under the new Agreement, the Operating Authority is expected to assume a broader management and coordination role for the Municipality's collection and distribution systems, subject to the scope boundaries, approval requirements, and procurement requirements set out in this RFP and the final Agreement. The services to be provided by the successful proponent consist of all functions required for the operation, maintenance, and management of the facilities and collection and distribution systems including sewer main and watermain repairs. Can the municipality provide further clarity on what is intended and a detailed summary of the roles of both the Operating Authority and the municipality in water distribution and collection as described in section 4.

A40 Sections 4.1 and 4.2 of the RFP describe the roles, responsibilities, scope boundaries, approval requirements, and procurement requirements applicable to the Operating Authority. Proponents should review the RFP in its entirety and submit a proposal based on their understanding of the scope of services and responsibilities outlined therein. The Municipality will evaluate each proposal based on the proponent's demonstrated understanding of the requirements and proposed approach to delivering the services in accordance with the RFP.

Q41 Can the municipality clarify further what is meant by "...assume broader management and coordination role....."

A41 Sections 4.1 and 4.2 of the RFP describe the Operating Authority's management and coordination responsibilities, including the operation, maintenance, monitoring, reporting, and support activities associated with the municipal water and wastewater systems. Proponents should review the RFP in its entirety and submit a proposal based on their understanding of the services required. The Municipality will evaluate each proposal based on the proponent's demonstrated understanding of the requirements and proposed approach to delivering the services in accordance with the RFP.

Q42 The RFP expands the Operating Authority's role to include sewer main and watermain repairs and broader coordination of collection/distribution systems. Can the Municipality define with associated approval thresholds:

- Minor repair
- Major repair
- Emergency repair
- Capital repair

A42 Sections 4.1 and 4.2 of the RFP describe the scope of services, responsibilities, approval requirements, and procurement requirements associated with repair activities. Proponents

should include their understanding of these requirements and proposed service delivery approach in their proposal. The Municipality will evaluate proposals based on the proponent's demonstrated understanding of the RFP requirements and proposed approach.

Q43 With respect to Section 4.2 Scope of Work, Is the Operating Authority responsible for overseeing the repair of watermain breaks, including the contracting of repairs?

Q44 Was the operation and maintenance of the water distribution and wastewater collection systems previously the responsibility of the Operating Authority, or were these services managed by the Municipality's Public Works Department prior to this RFP?

Q45 If the Municipality's Public Works Department staff operated and maintained the distribution and collection systems previously, is the Municipality looking to transfer the distribution and collection staff to the successful proponent of this RFP?

Q46 Will the operating authority be charged with sewer and watermain repairs / emergency repairs.

Q47 The RFP states that the role of the contractor with respect to sewers and water mains is changing. Can you please clarify the new role, in particular will the contractor be responsible for excavation and repair of water main breaks, including repaving of streets?

A43, A44, A45, A46, A47 Sections 4.1 and 4.2 of the RFP describe the scope of services to be provided by the Operating Authority, including the operation, maintenance, management, and coordination of the municipal water distribution and wastewater collection systems, including sewer main and watermain repairs. Road paving will not be included in the scope of services.

Q48 Can the municipality share further details on the equipment and human resources currently engaged in water distribution and collection. What is the staffing compliment including vacancies, and associated job function.

A48 The Municipality does not have information regarding current staffing levels, vacancies, job functions, or equipment resources available for distribution as part of this RFP. Proponents are expected to develop and submit their own proposed staffing, resource, and service delivery model based on their understanding of the scope of services described in the RFP. The Municipality will evaluate proposals based on the proponent's demonstrated understanding of the requirements and its proposed approach to delivering the services.

Q49 Can the municipality clarify the role of the Operating Authority with respect to 4. II. The RFP indicates that.” The services to be provided by the successful proponent consist of **all functions required for the operation, maintenance, and management of the facilities and collection and distribution systems** including the sewer main and watermain repairs. “

The RPF goes on to indicated, “For clarity, the Operating Authority’s role in relation to the collection and distribution systems includes day to day operation, inspection, monitoring, **routine maintenance, minor corrective maintenance, repair coordination, deficiency identification, recommendations, and reporting.**”

Can the municipality clarify the role of the Operating Authority with respect to maintenance, and if there are different levels of maintenance or repairs; or different roles that the Operating Authority would play. If so, what would the approval thresholds and decision criteria look like.

- A49 Sections 4.1 and 4.2 of the RFP describe the Operating Authority's role in the operation, maintenance, management, monitoring, inspection, repair coordination, and support of the municipal water distribution and wastewater collection systems. The RFP also identifies activities that remain subject to Municipal approval, including major repairs, lifecycle replacements, system upgrades, and capital works. Where classification of work is unclear, the Municipality shall determine whether the work constitutes operating maintenance, a major repair, capital work, or emergency work.

Proponents are encouraged to submit their proposals based on their understanding of the scope of services, responsibilities, approval requirements, and procurement requirements set out in the RFP and clearly describe their proposed approach to delivering these services. The Municipality will evaluate submissions based on the proponent's demonstrated understanding of the requirements and its proposed service delivery approach.

- Q50 Please share the incidence of sewer and watermain breaks historically in each of the systems – Madsen, Red Lake, Balmertown, Cochenour, McKenzie Island.
- Q51 Please provide a log of the last 5 years for sewer backups, sewer maintenance work, broken water mains, and water service calls.
- Q52 Does the current Operating Authority track watermain and sewer breaks? If so, could the Municipality provide a historical record of linear failures, breaks, and repairs on each of the municipal networks over the past three (3) years?

A50, A51, A52 The Municipality does not have records for 2021 through 2023 available to include with the RFP. Available records indicate the following watermain breaks: in 2024, one (1) in Madsen, two (2) in Balmertown, and two (2) in Red Lake; and in 2025, four (4) in Red Lake and one (1) in Balmertown. No watermain breaks were recorded for Cochenour or McKenzie Island during these years. The Municipality has not recorded any sewer collapses since 2024. Sewer backups attributable to municipal infrastructure occur approximately two (2) times per year. A complete five-year log of sewer maintenance work, water service calls, linear failures, breaks, and repairs is not available for distribution as part of this RFP.

- Q53 Can the municipality share an asset condition report, GIS access and any other information detailing the linear infrastructure involved within the proposed scope, type, age, and condition. Information to support pricing of repair and maintenance activities for:
- Water distribution systems
 - Wastewater collection systems
 - Hydrants
 - Valves
 - Lift stations

A53 The Municipality's Asset Management Plan has been attached to this addendum. Proponents are encouraged to review the Asset Management Plan for information relating to water distribution systems, wastewater collection systems, hydrants, lift stations, asset condition, asset age, lifecycle planning, and capital forecasting. Proponents should develop

their proposals based on the information provided in the RFP and supporting documentation and clearly identify any assumptions relied upon in pricing their services.

Q54 Is there a program of sewer cleaning or inspection that the new operator will need to provide?

Q55 Are there specific sewer gravity segments across the municipal networks that are highly prone to sediment deposition or routinely require frequent preventative hydraulic jetting?

Q56 Could the Municipality share the current Operating Authority's routine cleaning, flushing, and inspection schedule for the gravity sewer mains across all municipal systems?

A54, A55, A56 The Municipality engages a third-party contractor each year to flush sewer mains, with the system completed on a three-year rotational cycle. The Municipality has not identified specific gravity sewer segments that routinely require frequent preventative hydraulic jetting beyond normal system maintenance activities. Proponents should describe their proposed approach to sewer system cleaning, flushing, inspection, and preventative maintenance, including any recommended service levels, frequencies, and assumptions. The Municipality will evaluate the proposed approach as part of the overall submission

Q57 Could the Municipality confirm the total linear length of asbestos-cement watermain remaining in the Balmertown distribution network and the number of specific pipe segments concerned? Is the Operating Authority supposed to work on these sections?

A57 The total linear length of asbestos-cement watermain remaining within the Balmertown distribution system is approximately 850 metres, distributed across four (4) separate pipe segments. These pipe segments are identified for replacement as part of a future planned infrastructure upgrade program. Until such time as they are replaced, they remain part of the municipal water distribution system and are included within the scope of services described in the RFP.

Q58 Are the 17 valve chambers and 7 cleanout chambers within the Madsen low-pressure and gravity sewage collection system physically accessible and kept clear of snow and ice throughout the winter months?

A58 No. The valve chambers and cleanout chambers are not routinely kept clear of snow and ice during the winter months. Access is obtained on an as-needed basis for operational or maintenance purposes, and excavation may be required to locate and access chambers when isolation or maintenance activities are necessary. Proponents should account for these site conditions when preparing their submissions.

Q59 Is there a history of severe grease build-up or recurrent pump clogging at any of the municipal wastewater lift stations?

A59 No. The Municipality is not aware of any history of severe grease accumulation or recurring pump clogging issues at its wastewater lift stations. Lift stations are cleaned and maintained on a regular basis, including annual cleaning activities, to support reliable operation of the collection system.

Q60 What priority sectors, neighborhoods, or linear sections have been identified by the Municipality for upcoming manhole and sewer main rehabilitation to mitigate wet weather Inflow and Infiltration (I&I)?

- A60 The Municipality has not identified any specific neighbourhoods, sewer sections, or manhole rehabilitation projects for future inflow and infiltration (I&I) mitigation at this time. While infiltration is known to occur within portions of the wastewater collection system, no formal priority areas or rehabilitation programs have been established.
- Q61 Is the planned Howey Street forcemain bypass project securely scheduled for execution in 2027? Can you please confirm that this project will successfully reroute Lift Stations #4 and #5 to bypass Lift Station #1 and discharge directly to the Red Lake WPCP?
- A61 The project is expected to be proposed in the 2027 budget, subject to Council approval. As 2026 is a municipal election year, the project schedule and budget will be subject to consideration and approval by the incoming Council and therefore cannot be confirmed at this time. The proposed project will reroute Lift Stations #4 and #5 to bypass Lift Station #1 and discharge directly to the Red Lake Water Pollution Control Plant.
- Q62 With respect to Section 4.3 Municipal Facilities, Item #8 Red Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant and Item #12 Balmertown Wastewater Treatment Plant, can the Municipality confirm when the aeration tanks were last cleaned and inspected?
- A62 The aeration tanks at both the Red Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Balmertown Wastewater Treatment Plant have been cleaned and inspected within the last three (3) years. Additional records regarding the specific timing of these activities are not available as part of this procurement process.
- Q63 What level of assistance would the municipality prefer for assistance in mapping of infrastructure for the Municipal GIS system
- A63 The Municipality currently utilizes an ESRI-based GIS system. Assets identified within the Municipality's Asset Management Plan have been incorporated into the GIS. The RFP requires the Operating Authority to assist the Municipality with mapping of infrastructure for the Municipal GIS system; however, the Municipality has not prescribed a specific level of effort, methodology, software platform, or resource allocation for GIS-related services. Proponents should include in their submission the level of GIS support and mapping assistance they propose to provide as part of their overall service delivery approach. The Municipality will evaluate proposals based on the proponent's demonstrated understanding of the requirements and its proposed approach to delivering the services in accordance with the RFP.
- Q64 Will the Operating Authority be responsible for Ontario Fire Code (Section 6.6.5) annual hydrant inspections, in addition to flushing.
- A64 The Operating Authority will be responsible for performing the annual hydrant inspections required by section 6.6.5 of the Ontario Fire Code, in addition to flushing, maintenance, repair, and other activities necessary to operate and maintain the municipal water distribution system. Proponents should describe their proposed inspection, testing, recordkeeping, and compliance approach in their proposal.
- Q65 Can the municipality provide the details of quantity and condition of valves in each system.
- A65 The Municipality does not have a comprehensive inventory or condition assessment of valves by system available for distribution as part of this RFP. Proponents should prepare their submissions based on the information provided in the RFP, Asset Management Plan, and supporting documentation and clearly identify any assumptions relied upon in preparing their proposal.

Q66 Grinder Pump Responsibilities. The RFP identifies approximately sixteen privately owned grinder pumps in Cochenour. Please provide:

- Make/model
- Age
- Maintenance history
- Failure history
- Replacement history
- Current inventory of spare parts

Q67 As our team was unable to visually inspect the privately-owned grinder pumps in Cochenour during the site tour, could the Municipality provide photos (including access arrangements from the public road) , technical data sheets, and a standardized location inventory for this equipment?

A66, A67 The Municipality does not have information available regarding the make, model, age, maintenance history, failure history, replacement history, spare-parts inventory, photographs, technical data sheets, access arrangements, or a standardized location inventory for the privately owned grinder pumps identified in the RFP. Proponents should identify any assumptions relied upon in preparing their proposal.

Q68 With respect to Section 4.3 Municipal Facilities, Item #11 Cochenour and McKenzie Island Wastewater Collection System, how many grinder pumps are typically repaired or replaced annually? Additionally, is pump clogging a recurring issue?

A68 The number of grinder pump repairs or replacements varies from year to year but is typically between 0 and 4 units annually. Pump clogging has not historically been identified as a recurring issue.

Q69 Will grinder pump replacement costs be treated as:

- Operating costs
- Major repairs
- Capital costs requiring separate Municipal approval

A69 The Municipality has not established a predetermined classification for grinder pump replacement costs. Replacement costs will be subject to Municipal review and approval and will be classified in accordance with the Municipality's applicable policies and the terms of the final Agreement. Proponents should identify any assumptions relied upon in preparing their proposal.

Q70 What is the Municipality's expectation regarding after-hours response times for grinder pump failures

Q71 Additionally, is there an established protocol, target response time, or mandatory minimum service level that the Operating Authority must comply with when a residential grinder pump fails?

A70, A71 The RFP requires the Operating Authority to provide 24-hour, 7-day-per-week on-call coverage by operational staff. The Municipality has not prescribed specific response times for grinder pump failures. Proponents should identify their proposed response approach and service levels for grinder pump maintenance and emergency response within their proposal.

The Municipality will evaluate submissions based on the proponent's demonstrated understanding of the requirements and proposed service delivery approach.

Q72 How many cubic metres (m³) of sludge are hauled to the drying beds annually?

A72 Approximately 2,000 cubic meters of sludge are hauled to the drying beds annually.

Q73 How many cubic metres (m³) of sludge are bagged annually at the wastewater treatment plants?

A73 Approximately 4,000 cubic meters of sludge are bagged annually at the wastewater treatment plants

Q74 What is the Municipality's expectation regarding the care and maintenance of the drying beds.

A74 The RFP includes operation, monitoring, inspection, maintenance, reporting, and sludge management activities associated with the municipal wastewater systems. The Municipality has not prescribed a specific maintenance program or level of service for the drying beds. Proponents should include in their submission their proposed approach to the operation, inspection, maintenance, sludge management, and overall care of the drying beds. The Municipality will evaluate submissions based on the proponent's demonstrated understanding of the requirements and proposed service delivery approach.

Q75 Will the municipality continue to hold the permits for the drying beds?

A75 Yes. The Municipality will continue to hold the permits for the drying beds.

Q76 Can the Municipality provide a comprehensive schematic of the SCADA system layers in use across the systems? Please confirm if the Municipality owns the SCADA software licenses and historians, or if the SCADA layer belongs to the operator.

A76 A comprehensive schematic of the SCADA system layers is not available for distribution with this RFP. The Municipality confirms that it owns the SCADA software licences and associated historian systems.

Q77 Could the Municipality provide data regarding the average frequency and duration of electrical power outages experienced across the municipal facilities over the past five (5) years?

A77 The Municipality does not track the frequency or duration of electrical power outages across its water and wastewater facilities. Historically, approximately two (2) planned power outages occur annually, while the frequency and duration of unplanned outages vary from year to year. The Municipality understands that a new transmission line is planned to be in service by 2033, which is expected to improve system reliability and reduce power disruption events.

Q78 During our site visit, we observed that one of the raw water pumps at the Cochenour Low Lift Pump house was disassembled. Is this the same pump flagged as out-of-service in the MECP inspection report from December 2024? Is there an active plan and timeline to replace or rebuild this unit?

A78 Yes. The pump observed out of service at the Cochenour Low Lift Pump house is the same unit identified in the December 2024 MECP inspection report. The pump was subsequently repaired and returned to service but has since experienced additional issues and is currently

out of service undergoing further repairs. The Municipality's current expectation is that the unit will be repaired and returned to service by the end of the current year.

Q79 Will a detailed, audited inventory of all on-site items (including chemicals, spare parts, tools, vehicles, laboratory equipment, reagents, and containers) be made available to proponents before the final proposal submission? Can the Municipality specify which of these items will be transferred to the incoming operator as municipal property versus what remains the private property of the outgoing operator?

Q80 What existing equipment currently used in the systems such as tools, vehicles, heavy equipment, lawn equipment, snow plow blades, lab equipment, spare parts, will remain with the facilities or will be kept by the current operator?

A79, A80 The Municipality is unable to confirm at this time which equipment, tools, vehicles, spare parts, chemicals, laboratory equipment, reagents, containers, or other materials currently used by the existing Operating Authority may remain available after transition. Proponents should prepare their submissions based on the RFP requirements, identify the personnel and resources included in their proposed service delivery model, and clearly disclose any assumptions about the availability or transfer of existing items.

Q81 Under the current Agreement the Municipality reimburses vehicle fuel, repairs, and maintenance costs. Will the Municipality continue this approach under the new arrangement or is all fleet ownership and replacement expected to be included within the proponent's operating budget

A81 Proponents should include in their pricing the fleet ownership, fuel, repair, maintenance, and replacement costs required to deliver their proposed service model, unless a cost is expressly identified in the RFP as a Municipal responsibility. Proponents should clearly identify any assumptions relied upon in preparing their proposal.

Q82 What Municipal vehicles, equipment, tools, pumps, standby generators, trailers, heavy equipment, and specialty equipment are available for use by the Operating Authority?

A82 The Municipality is unable to confirm at this time what Municipal vehicles, equipment, tools, pumps, generators, trailers, heavy equipment, or specialty equipment may be available for use by the successful proponent. Proponents should prepare their submissions based on the requirements set out in the RFP and clearly identify any assumptions relied upon in preparing their proposal.

Q83 Can the Municipality provide an inventory of municipal-owned maintenance equipment currently used for system operations?

A83 The Municipality does not have an inventory of municipal-owned maintenance equipment available for distribution as part of this RFP. Proponents should prepare their submissions based on the information provided in the RFP and supporting documentation and clearly identify any assumptions relied upon in preparing their proposal.

Q84 Can the Municipality provide its current Asset Management Plan, asset condition assessments, lifecycle models, and capital forecasts referenced in the RFP.

A84 The Municipality's Asset Management Plan has been attached to this addendum.

- Q85 Will the Municipality provide GIS software licenses and asset management software, or is the successful proponent expected to provide these systems
- A85 The Municipality currently utilizes an ESRI-based GIS system. Proponents should identify in their submission how they propose to support GIS and asset management activities and any software systems they intend to utilize. Access requirements and software licensing arrangements, if any, will be discussed with the successful proponent.
- Q86 Is there an asset management system in place for the linear infrastructure that includes current condition assessments, repair history etc? If so is it owned by the municipality or does the contractor need to provide one? Will data and records from the current system be provided to the new operator.
- A86 The Municipality does not maintain a separate asset management software system for the linear infrastructure. Asset inventory, condition, lifecycle, and capital planning information is maintained through the Municipality's Asset Management Plan and GIS system. The Municipality currently utilizes an ESRI-based GIS system. Available records and information relevant to the services will be made available to the successful proponent in accordance with the RFP and final Agreement. Proponents should identify in their submission any asset management systems, processes, or tools they propose to utilize in delivering the services. The Municipality will evaluate submissions based on the proponent's demonstrated understanding of the requirements and proposed service delivery approach.
- Q87 Section 4.2(f) requires the Operating Authority to maintain compliance with DWQMS and create and/or update Operational Plans, Quality Management Systems, Operating Procedures, and Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Manuals as required. Given that many of the existing O&M Manuals and engineering drawings are currently available only in hard-copy format, can the Municipality confirm whether electronic versions (where available) will be provided to the successful proponent to facilitate updates and ongoing maintenance of these documents
- Q88 Section 4.4 indicates that available facility drawings and O&M manuals will be provided to the successful proponent.
- A87, A88 The Municipality will provide all records currently on file. Scanning of documents available only in hard-copy format will be the responsibility of the Operating Authority.
- Q89 In addition, please clarify the Municipality's expectations regarding the creation of new O&M Manuals or substantial revisions associated with future capital projects and regulatory approvals, such as the new CLI-ECAs.
- A89 Proponents should describe their proposed approach, roles, responsibilities, and cost allocation associated with the development of new O&M Manuals and substantial revisions to existing O&M Manuals arising from future capital projects, regulatory approvals, or changes to facility operations. The Municipality will evaluate the proposed approach as part of the overall submission.
- Q90 Is the Operating Authority expected to provide or procure engineering services to develop these documents, or should proponents assume that engineering design, record drawings, and major O&M manual development will be completed separately by the Municipality's engineering consultant, with the Operating Authority responsible only for operational review, implementation, and routine updates? Sections 4.2(f), 4.2(n), and the capital

projects provisions suggest the Operating Authority has an advisory and support role, while major capital works remain under Municipal direction.

A90 Proponents should clearly describe their proposed approach, assumptions, roles, responsibilities, and cost allocation with respect to engineering support, record drawings, O&M manual development, updates, and implementation activities associated with future capital projects and regulatory approvals. The Municipality will evaluate the proposed approach as part of the overall submission.

Q91 Can the Municipality confirm that the Operating Authority is responsible for responding to alarms, call-out, emergencies, on an after-hours, weekend, holiday, 24/7 basis. What functions will the municipality manage.

A91 The RFP describes the operational responsibilities of the Operating Authority, including on-call coverage, alarm response, and emergency response requirements. Proponents should submit their proposal based on their understanding of the scope of services and clearly describe their proposed approach to operational coverage, alarm response, call-outs, emergency response, escalation procedures, and coordination with the Municipality. The Municipality will evaluate submissions based on the proponent's demonstrated understanding of the requirements and proposed service delivery approach.

Q92 Does the municipality expect water operations staff to live in Red Lake, or is the Operating Authority able to dispatch from adjacent communities

A92 The Municipality expects the Operating Authority to maintain an operational presence within the Municipality of Red Lake sufficient to effectively deliver the services, including routine operations, on-call coverage, emergency response, and customer service activities. Proponents should describe in their submission how they intend to staff and deliver services within the Municipality and demonstrate their ability to meet the operational requirements set out in the RFP. The Municipality will evaluate submissions based on the proponent's demonstrated understanding of the requirements and proposed service delivery approach.

Q93 Does the municipality expect the Operating Authority to manage procurement of goods and services (in accordance with Municipal procurement policy) or will the operating authority be expected to use municipal procurement staff

A93 The RFP requires that procurement activities be conducted in accordance with the Municipality's Procurement By-law and applicable purchasing policies. The Municipality has not prescribed a specific procurement delivery model. Proponents should describe their proposed approach to procuring goods and services required to deliver the services while ensuring compliance with the Municipality's procurement requirements. The Municipality will evaluate submissions based on the proponent's demonstrated understanding of the requirements and proposed service delivery approach.

Q94 Does the requirement to name subcontractors extend to hiring skilled trades to perform work like equipment repairs, meter calibration, lifting device inspections, or things like snow plowing, sludge hauling, accredited lab analysis etc?

A94 The requirement to identify subcontractors applies to any entity that the Proponent proposes to engage to perform a portion of the services or responsibilities that form part of the Proponent's obligations under the Operating Authority Agreement. This includes subcontractors that will undertake operational, maintenance, or other core service delivery functions on behalf of the Proponent.

The requirement is not intended to extend to suppliers, vendors, or service providers that support the Proponent's operations in the ordinary course of business and are not performing a portion of the contracted services. Examples may include equipment repair technicians, meter calibration service providers, lifting device inspectors, accredited laboratories, office suppliers, and similar ancillary service providers.

Where a third party is proposed to perform a substantive component of the services contemplated under the Agreement, such as sludge hauling or other operational service delivery functions, that third party should be identified as a subcontractor.