



May 2, 2007

Update of the evaluation of responses to the Request for Expressions of Interest and Pre Qualification to deliver ISAP services

Prior to the issuance of the Request for Expressions of Interest and Pre Qualification (RFEI&PQ) several meetings were held with members of the settlement sector and others. At these meetings there had been a request from the participants that this exercise not be a process of elimination but rather a process to include all of those organizations that were deemed qualified. The goal was to expand the number of eligible providers in Ontario. CIC understood this to mean that every reasonable opportunity should be given to responding organizations to demonstrate that they were qualified. The commitment to this principle and other minor considerations, contributed to CIC making two decisions that have delayed the finalization of the ISAP Qualified Provider List (IQPL).

The assessments done on the initial responses from potential service providing organizations showed that the majority required additional information. CIC decided that rather than determining that the missing information showed the organization to be unqualified we have requested that respondents provide missing details before finalizing the list.

It was noted very soon after the closing of the October RFEI&PQ that a number of current ISAP providers had not applied. These providers along with others who could not have entered at the time of the original request, wished to be considered. CIC reopened the process in February 2007 to allow an equal opportunity for all that had missed the October 2006 request.

By shifting the work of assessing the responses into a time period that was in conflict with the very necessary work related to LINC and Host contract cycles as well as fiscal year end the above noted delays were exacerbated.

We have now reassessed our ability to proceed with the assessments. The issuance of the IQPL is expected to occur between 15 May and 31 May 2007. We will advise all organizations that submitted responses to the RFEI&PQ of the results at that time. We regret that we will not be able to respond to individual requests for assessment progress up dates.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Battrick

Regional Program Advisor

Ontario Region

Citizenship and Immigration Canada

130 Adelaide Street West, Suite 1500

Toronto ON M5H 3P5