

## **Brookfield Global Integrated Solutions (BGIS) – Summary of meeting November 28, 2016**

By Deborah Levine Farrow, FRAIC

### **Background**

Brookfield Global Integrated Solutions (BGIS) is the provider of property management and project delivery services for the federal Department of Public Services and Procurement (PSPC).

As the holder of the RP-1 Contracts, BGIS provides ongoing support for most federal, Crown-owned assets and leased space administered by PSPC as well as assets of other government departments.

Over the last year, the RAIC has successfully established an industry liaison committee with BGIS, in partnership with the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies (ACEC), the Canadian Construction Association (CCA) and the Interior Designers of Canada (IDC).

The series of meetings is intended to review the status of activities of BGIS as a service provider for government crown assets- RP1 only, and the interaction with the design community.

The November 28 meeting was attended by representatives of the RAIC, the Association of Consulting Engineering Companies (ACEC), and the Interior Designers of Canada (IDC).

### **Next Meeting: January 23, 2017.**

### **Topics of discussion**

#### *1. Contracts-Consultant/BGIS*

To date it appears that Consultant/BGIS contracts in place, and in particular Supplementary Conditions, are of concern. Industry representatives have advised BGIS repeatedly over the past year that there are concerns with these contracts. They point to industry-standard forms of contracts such as OAA 600 and RAIC Document 6. The Engineers Document 31 and 36 also provide standard forms of contract.

#### *2. Requests for Standing Offer Agreements*

BGIS representatives advised that they intend to move toward issuing Requests for Standing Offer Agreements (RFSO). The intent is to issue Engineering RFSOs, with contracts between the Engineering disciplines and BGIS, based on Documents 31, and 36 in mid-January, as the bulk of the immediate work is considered to be engineering.

Once this has been rolled out, the intent is to issue an RFSO-Architectural, and Multi-Disciplinary RFSO with contracts based on using RAIC Document 6. RAIC/ACEC advised that BGIS consider the work done by the design industry, in consultation with BGIS representatives and with the industry insurers, looking

at a draft Supplementary Conditions Document. A summary of this work was provided to BGIS representatives August 2016.

The RAIC, ACEC, and IDC advised that “issuing uninsurable Supplementary Conditions is to no one’s advantage.”

### *3. Federal buildings in Quebec*

The IDC voiced concerns regarding the practice of interior designers in Quebec in federal buildings. BGIS advised they were following the Architects Act and the Architects Code of Ethics. BGIS suggested that IDC direct further concerns to the registrar of the Order of Quebec Architects.

### *4. Upcoming procurements*

BGIS would like to issue a *Notice of Proposed Procurements on the MERX* web page to advise the industry of upcoming activities. BGIS is looking for support from the industry to advise its members of these proposed procurements. As RP-1 includes crown assets across Canada, there was a discussion of how to raise awareness of activities, particularly in the Western Region.

### *5. General discussion*

There was a general discussion of BGIS requests for proposal for studies that undervalued the percentage of fees allocated to the study. There was also a general discussion of the quality of RFPs.