Alberta LAW FOUNDATION

Request for Expressions of Interest

Province Wide Access to Justice Technology Platform Using Artificial Intelligence

RFEOI No. 261103ALF

Issue date: 03NOV2026

Response deadline: 18DEC2026 at 17:00 ABT (Alberta Time)

Official contact: rfeoi@albertalawfoundation.org

RFEOI website: www.albertalawfoundation.org/rfeoi

FINAL – ALF BOARD APPROVED

November 3, 2026

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1.0 Introduction

The Alberta Law Foundation ("ALF") invites Expressions of Interest from legally established non-profit organizations domiciled in Alberta, acting alone or leading a consortium, to develop and implement an AI-enabled, province-wide technology platform that strengthens access to justice for Albertans.

The platform is intended to improve access to legal information, navigation of the justice system, and preparation for legal assistance. It would provide a shared technology layer through which Albertans can describe legal concerns in plain language, organize relevant information, and connect with appropriate legal services and other sources of human assistance.

This Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEOI) is an exploratory process intended to help ALF assess potential solutions, delivery capabilities, development and lifecycle costs, risks, governance and operating models, and partnership structures before deciding whether and how to proceed. It is also designed to identify potential partners or consortiums to advance to full proposal(s) for potential funding.

The initiative advances ALF's Public Value Stewardship Framework by strengthening shared justice infrastructure that helps Albertans **Connect** with appropriate assistance, **Equip** themselves with reliable information and preparation, and access **Represent** services through appropriate referrals.

The ALF Board of Directors is considering an appropriate funding envelope, informed in part by the responses received. Respondents should provide indicative development and ongoing operating costs proportionate to their proposed scope and approach.

This RFEOI does not constitute a commitment by ALF to provide funding, procure a solution, or implement a platform. Any subsequent investment or implementation decision will be at ALF's discretion.

2.0 Respondents and Partnerships

ALF's preferred investment model is a legally established non-profit organization domiciled in Alberta that acts as the lead respondent, either independently or in partnership with other organizations. The lead organization must have the capacity to administer funding, coordinate delivery, and ensure that the proposed solution addresses Alberta law, institutions and community needs.

Consortia may include technology companies, legal-service organizations, universities, researchers and community organizations. For-profit organizations may participate as consortium partners, provided the response is led by an eligible non-profit organization.

Consortium partners are not required to be based in Alberta. However, for further clarity, the lead non-profit organization must be domiciled in Alberta, and the proposed platform and its operating model must be designed to serve Albertans and the province's access-to-justice ecosystem.

3.0 Projects of Interest

ALF is interested in approaches that improve access to justice by connecting Albertans with existing community and legal services, strengthening the consistency of intake and referral, and improving the capacity and effectiveness of the broader access-to-justice ecosystem.

Proposed solutions should consider how existing tools, services and infrastructure can be integrated or leveraged, rather than assuming that all capabilities must be developed anew. Phased implementation by legal topic, region, or community is welcome where the proposal demonstrates a credible pathway to province-wide reach and sustainable operation.

Solutions should support ALF's public-value outcomes by helping Albertans **Connect** with appropriate assistance, **Equip** themselves with reliable legal information and prepare for assistance, and access **Represent** services through appropriate referrals.

3.1 Description of Solution

Responses should address the following six pillars in the questionnaire in Appendix A, describing current capabilities and proposed areas of development, using evidence where available:

- **A Clear Technology Solution and User Journey**

Describe the proposed platform, its principal capabilities and how it would improve the experience of Albertans seeking legal information, navigating the justice system, or preparing to access legal assistance. Explain the anticipated role of AI, how the solution would build on existing capabilities, and the key gaps or opportunities it would address.

- **Augmentation of Human Professionals**

Describe how the proposed solution would complement and strengthen the work of lawyers, legal clinics, courts, mediators and other frontline service providers. Explain how technology could improve efficiency and capacity while preserving appropriate human judgement, professional oversight and access to individualized assistance.

- **Integration with Community Infrastructure**

Describe how the platform could connect with and strengthen Alberta's existing legal, community and social-service networks. Identify potential integration and partnership opportunities, including how the solution could improve intake, referrals, and connections to appropriate assistance.

- **Alignment with ALF's Mandate**

Explain how the proposed solution would advance ALF's statutory objects and Public Value Stewardship Framework, particularly the outcomes of Connect, Equip and Represent. Identify the anticipated public value, opportunities to strengthen shared justice infrastructure, and potential alignment or overlap with existing initiatives. Any future funding eligibility determination would be made by ALF through a subsequent process.

- **Community-Grounded Governance**

Describe the proposed approach to governance, accountability and community participation. Explain how legal professionals, non-profit and community organizations, people with lived experience, Indigenous partners and regional perspectives could inform the platform's development and ongoing operation. Identify the principal governance, independence and accountability considerations.

- **Early Intervention and Measurable Outcomes**

Describe how the proposed solution could support earlier intervention, improve access to appropriate assistance and strengthen the capacity and effectiveness of the broader access-to-justice ecosystem. Identify the anticipated outcomes, potential measures of success, and proposed approach to evaluating impact. Also propose how data could be used for perpetual improvement opportunities.

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3.2 Technology Safeguards and Inclusive Service

Respondents should describe their capabilities and approach to developing and operating a secure, reliable, responsible, sovereign, and inclusive AI-enabled platform. Responses should demonstrate relevant experience and an understanding of the principal risks and considerations associated with applying AI in the access-to-justice ecosystem.

Areas of interest include:

- **Legal accuracy and reliability:** Capabilities to use authoritative, current legal information and manage the risks of inaccurate, outdated or unsupported outputs.
- **Responsible AI and risk management:** Experience assessing and mitigating risks related to accuracy, bias, security, privacy and the safe use of AI, with appropriate human oversight and accountability.
- **Privacy and information security:** Capabilities to protect sensitive information through appropriate data governance, security controls, consent practices and third-party oversight.
- **Accessibility and inclusion:** Experience designing accessible, plain-language and culturally appropriate services that accommodate diverse communities, languages, abilities and levels of digital access.
- **User safety and appropriate assistance:** An understanding of situations requiring human intervention, urgent escalation or alternatives to digital service delivery.

Respondents should identify relevant experience, established practices, and areas requiring further development. Technical designs and completed compliance assessments are not required at this stage.

3.3 Delivery and Sustainability

Respondents should describe their capacity and high-level approach to developing, implementing and sustaining the proposed platform, including relevant experience delivering technology-enabled services in complex, multi-stakeholder environments.

Areas of interest include:

- **Development and implementation:** The proposed approach to discovery, community engagement, testing, piloting, evaluation and phased implementation.
- **Partnerships and integration:** Experience working with non-profit organizations, legal-service providers, community organizations and other stakeholders, including an understanding of the dependencies and challenges associated with integrating existing services and systems.
- **Operating model and sustainability:** The proposed approach to ongoing operations, organizational accountability, staffing, technology maintenance, legal-content updates and long-term stewardship.
- **Financial viability:** Indicative development and ongoing operating costs, key cost drivers, funding requirements, sustainability considerations and the assumptions underlying the proposed approach.
- **Human-service integration:** An understanding of how the platform would complement existing services, where human assistance remains essential, and how anticipated improvements in service capacity and efficiency would be assessed.

Respondents should demonstrate the organizational, technical, financial and partnership capabilities required to deliver a sustainable solution. Detailed implementation plans, finalized partnership agreements and fully developed operating models are not required at this stage. Indicative costs should distinguish development from ongoing operations and identify the assumptions underpinning longer-term cost estimates.

3.4 Relationship to future funding or procurement

This RFEOI gathers information about concepts, organizational capability, partnerships, and delivery options. It is not a request for a priced contractual offer, a grant award, or a competitive selection of a delivery provider. Participation and the information supplied are non-binding, subject to the information-use terms in Section 5.0.

ALF may use responses to define a subsequent grant application, request for proposal or proposals, pilot, or other process. Any future opportunity will have its own eligibility, requirements, assessment and approvals. Responding here does not guarantee an invitation, prequalification, funding or an agreement. Unless a future notice states otherwise, participation here is not required to participate in a later public opportunity.

4.0 Request for Expressions of Interest Process

4.1 Schedule

Event	Proposed date or period
Issue date	03NOV2026
Question period	03NOV2026 to 20NOV2026 at 17:00 ABT (Alberta Time)
Final answers and addenda	23NOV2026 at 17:00 ABT
Response deadline	18DEC2026 at 17:00 ABT
Shortlist presentations	11JAN2027 to 15JAN2027 (subject to change)
Board consideration	15JAN2027 to 29JAN2027
Respondent communications	02FEB2027

ALF will communicate changes to the schedule through the RFEOI website and numbered addenda. The response deadline is effective only once confirmed in the public issue version.

4.2 Website and official contact

The RFEOI website at www.albertalawfoundation.org/rfeoi will contain the current document, response forms, questions and answers, and addenda. The Administrator is reachable at rfeoi@albertalawfoundation.org. Respondents are responsible for checking for updates before submission.

4.3 Questions and answers

Questions can be submitted to the Administrator during the question period. ALF will post answers relevant to all respondents with names and project-specific details removed. Changes to requirements will be issued by numbered addenda. Direct requests for accessible submission arrangements to the same contact. Do not seek process-specific direction from individual Board members or other ALF staff.

4.4 Submission requirements

Each respondent or respondent consortium shall submit a completed Appendix A questionnaire, an indicative budget and a signed Appendix B letter of interest by the deadline in Section 4.1. Use the questionnaire sequence in a searchable PDF of no more than 15 pages, excluding the cover, letter of interest, budget and up to five pages of supporting material. Use readable type of at least 11 points. The budget may also be provided in Excel.

Describe one coherent concept per response along with assumptions. Estimates and ranges are acceptable when assumptions and confidence are stated. Mark matters that are unknown, not applicable, or subject to a future decision; do not leave questions blank. A full business case, final architecture and working prototype are not required. Do not include real client records or privileged case information.

Email the response to rfeoi@albertalawfoundation.org in a single file. For email use the subject "ALF RFEOI – [lead respondent]". Maximum file size is 20mb. Receipt is determined by the designated system's timestamp in Alberta Time. Allow sufficient transmission time.

ALF will acknowledge receipt by email within 24 hours. If acknowledgement is missing, contact the Administrator before 21DEC2026 at 17:00 Alberta Time. An authorized representative may revise or withdraw a response before the 22DEC2026 deadline; identify replacements clearly. Late responses will not be included in the analysis unless ALF extends the deadline through an addendum available to all respondents.

4.5 Review and optional meetings

The Administrator will review all responses received and will prepare an analysis for consideration by the full ALF Board. The analysis will identify complete and incomplete responses, participation-model fit, concept differences, indicative costs, evidence, partnership models, uncertainties and potential next steps. This RFEOI does not apply a scored ranking or award a preferred-provider status.

Review will consider mandate and public value; technical feasibility and readiness; human support and community integration; governance and partnership structure, delivery capability; privacy, security, and inclusion; development costs and lifecycle value; and measurable outcomes. Reviewers will disclose conflicts and withdraw from affected reviews where required.

ALF may request clarification or invite respondents to a shortlist meeting to further understand concepts, capabilities, and qualifications. Invitations will explain the purpose and information sought. A meeting does not create preferential status or a funding commitment. Similar clarification needs will be handled consistently, and material changes to the opportunity will be communicated publicly.

The ALF Board may decide to request fuller proposals, explore a pilot, revise the opportunity, or take no further action. Respondents will be advised of the process outcome through email and through website updates. Any future binding commitment requires a separate process, due diligence, applicable approvals and a signed agreement.

5.0 Terms and Conditions

5.1 Nature of the process

This RFEOI is intended as a non-binding invitation for information. It is not intended to create a tendering contract, grant entitlement or contractual offer. ALF may amend, extend, suspend or cancel it, request clarification or decide not to proceed. Material changes will be communicated through the RFEOI website and addenda. Respondents bear their own preparation and participation costs.

To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, respondents shall have no recourse against ALF under any circumstances arising from or relating to this RFEOI, their participation in the process, or any act, omission or decision of ALF in connection with the process. ALF shall not be liable for any resulting loss, damage, cost or expense, including preparation and participation costs, loss of opportunity or anticipated profits.

5.2 Confidentiality and information use

Identify specific confidential or proprietary portions and explain the basis for that designation. ALF will use responses to assess the opportunity and may share them with its Board and advisers for that purpose, subject to appropriate confidentiality arrangements and applicable legal obligations. Absolute confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. Do not include privileged legal advice or identifiable client information.

ALF may use aggregated or anonymized findings to plan subsequent opportunities. Identify any information that cannot reasonably be summarized in that manner. Disclosure remains subject to applicable law and lawful orders. These terms do not assume that legislation applicable to a provincial ministry automatically applies to ALF.

5.3 Intellectual property

The respondent retains rights in its pre-existing intellectual property. Submission permits ALF to review the response for this process; it does not transfer ownership or authorize commercial use of the concept. Future agreements must address ownership or licensing of funded work, data rights, public-interest access, portability and continuity if a provider exists.

5.4 Funding and approvals

All funding remains subject to ALF's statutory objects, applicable bylaws and directives, Board approval, and required ministerial approval or exemption. Under section 122 of the Legal Profession Act, funding commitments or grant agreements exceeding $250,000 require ministerial approval unless covered by an applicable exemption order. ALF will confirm the requirements applying to any proposed commitment before entering into an agreement.

5.5 Conflicts and accuracy

Disclose actual, potential or perceived conflicts involving the respondent, consortium members, ALF personnel, Board members or proposed related-party transactions. ALF may request further information or exclude a response where a conflict cannot be managed fairly. Respondents must distinguish confirmed facts and commitments from estimates, assumptions and proposed partnerships.

Respondents should advise the Administrator of material changes to partner commitments, costs or delivery capability during the review period. No respondent is required to commence work or incur project expenditure as a result of this RFEOI.

6.0 Definitions and Abbreviations

ALF or Foundation The Alberta Law Foundation.

AI Artificial intelligence, including any model or automated inference component proposed for the platform.

Board The Board of Directors of ALF.

Consortium Organizations participating in a coordinated response, with an identified accountable lead and defined roles.

Framework The ALF Public Value Stewardship Framework version linked in Section 1.0.

Justice Infrastructure Shared capacity, tools and arrangements that support Connect, Equip and Represent under the Framework.

Lifecycle costs Costs to design, implement, operate, maintain and transition or retire a solution over the stated planning period.

Respondent A lead organization submitting a response, alone or for a consortium, under the participation model in Section 2.1.

Response The questionnaire, indicative budget, supporting material and signed letter submitted under Section 4.4.

Response deadline The date and time in Section 4.1, as amended by any applicable addendum.

RFEOI This Request for Expressions of Interest, including its public appendices and addenda.

The Administrator The ALF contact designated in Section 4.2 to administer communications and responses.

RFEOI website The official publication location designated in Section 4.2.

RFP A Request for Proposals under a separate future procurement process, if ALF elects to issue one.

Appendix A: RFEOI Questionnaire

Respondents should use the numbered questions below as response headings and address each question at a level appropriate to this stage of the process. Responses should demonstrate relevant organizational capabilities, understanding of Alberta's access-to-justice ecosystem, proposed high-level approach, and capacity to deliver a sustainable solution.

Support responses with relevant experience and evidence where available. Distinguish established capabilities and confirmed arrangements from proposed approaches, assumptions and areas requiring further assessment. Detailed technical designs, completed assessments and finalized partnership agreements are not required at this stage. Where information is not yet available, identify the principal considerations and how they would be addressed.

A1. Respondent and Partnerships

Describe the lead respondent's legal status, mandate, operations and capacity to administer and deliver the proposed initiative. Identify consortium members and prospective partners, their anticipated contributions, and the status of relevant relationships.

Summarize relevant experience in technology development, AI, access to justice, legal or community services, and delivery of complex initiatives. Describe the capabilities and partnerships available to support the proposed initiative, including any significant gaps. Provide up to two organizational references, where available.

A2. Concept and Public Value

Describe your understanding of the principal access-to-justice challenges and unmet needs in Alberta that the initiative could address. Identify intended users, potential areas of initial focus, and the anticipated benefits of your proposed approach.

Explain how the solution could complement existing services and technology, including opportunities for integration and shared infrastructure. Describe its anticipated contribution to ALF's statutory objects and Public Value Stewardship Framework. Identify the key assumptions underlying your concept and areas requiring further assessment.

A3. Technology and AI Capabilities

Describe your organization's experience and capabilities in developing, implementing or operating technology-enabled services, including the application of AI where relevant.

Provide a high-level overview of the proposed solution, its principal capabilities and how it could improve access to legal information, justice system navigation and preparation for legal assistance. Explain how the approach could build on existing capabilities and identify the principal development needs, technical considerations and dependencies.

A4. Human Professional Support

Describe your approach and relevant experience in using technology to complement the work of legal professionals, legal clinics, community organizations and frontline service providers.

Explain how the proposed solution would support access to appropriate human assistance and preserve professional judgment, oversight and individualized support where needed. Identify the principal considerations relating to legal information, legal advice, user safety and appropriate escalation.

A5. Community Integration

Describe your experience working with legal-service providers, non-profit organizations, community organizations and other stakeholders relevant to access to justice.

Explain how the proposed solution could strengthen connections between Albertans and existing services, improve intake and referrals, and support more effective coordination across the access-to-justice ecosystem. Identify potential partnership opportunities and the principal considerations associated with service integration, referral capacity and information sharing. Distinguish established relationships from prospective partnerships.

A6. Mandate Alignment and Governance

Explain how the proposed initiative would advance ALF's statutory objects and the **Connect, Equip and Represent** outcomes of its Public Value Stewardship Framework. Identify opportunities to strengthen shared justice infrastructure and any potential overlap with existing initiatives.

Describe your proposed high-level approach to governance, accountability and community participation, including the involvement of legal professionals, non-profit and community organizations, people with lived experience, Indigenous partners and regional representatives. Identify the principal governance, independence, risk-management and accountability considerations.

A7. Early Intervention and Outcome Measurement

Describe the anticipated benefits of the proposed solution for Albertans, service providers and the broader access-to-justice ecosystem. Explain how the initiative could support earlier intervention, improve connections to appropriate assistance and strengthen service capacity.

Identify potential indicators of success and describe your proposed approach to evaluating outcomes, learning from implementation and improving the solution over time. Explain how you would distinguish platform activity from meaningful user outcomes and assess the initiative's contribution to broader system improvements.

A8. Reliability, Privacy, Security and Inclusion

Describe your organization's relevant capabilities and proposed approach to developing and operating a reliable, secure, responsible and inclusive AI-enabled service.

Address, at a high level, the principal considerations relating to legal information accuracy, authoritative sources, content maintenance, responsible AI use, privacy, information security, accessibility and inclusion. Explain how the proposed approach would protect sensitive information, accommodate diverse users and identify circumstances requiring human assistance or alternative service pathways.

Identify significant risks, relevant experience and areas requiring further assessment before implementation.

A9. Delivery, Operating Model and Dependencies

Describe your organization's experience and capacity to deliver complex technology or service initiatives involving multiple partners and stakeholder groups.

Outline your proposed high-level approach to discovery, community engagement, development, piloting, evaluation and phased implementation. Identify the principal dependencies, risks and conditions that could influence successful delivery and province-wide reach.

Describe your proposed approach to ongoing operations, organizational accountability, staffing, technology and legal-content maintenance, partner relationships and long-term sustainability. Identify the principal considerations for maintaining and funding the service after initial implementation.

A10. Indicative Budget and Lifecycle Value

Provide indicative estimates in Canadian dollars for developing, implementing and operating the proposed solution. Distinguish initial development and implementation costs from ongoing operating costs, and identify the principal cost drivers, assumptions, uncertainties and anticipated funding requirements.

Where feasible, provide indicative costs by major phase and annual operating estimates over an appropriate planning horizon. Identify the potential funding requested from ALF, other anticipated funding sources, and any material funding gaps. Distinguish secured contributions from anticipated contributions.

Explain the key assumptions underlying your estimates, including expected demand, operating requirements and potential expansion. Identify opportunities to adjust scope or phase implementation to reflect available funding while preserving the initiative's principal public-value objectives. No matching contribution is prescribed, and respondents should propose a scope, time, and cost structure appropriate to their approach rather than a predetermined funding envelope.

A11. Evidence, Risks and Matters for Future Decision

Summarize the strongest evidence supporting your proposed approach, relevant experience, principal assumptions and any material limitations or uncertainties.

Identify the most significant risks, dependencies and unresolved questions, together with your proposed approach to addressing them. Explain what additional assessment, engagement or development would be required to support a more detailed proposal and ALF's future investment decision.

Disclose any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest and material related-party arrangements. Identify any information for which specific confidentiality treatment is requested and explain the basis for that request.

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Appendix B: Letter of Interest Template

[Respondent letterhead]

[Date]

RFEOI Administrator
Alberta Law Foundation
rfeoi@albertalawfoundation.org

Re: RFEOI 261103ALF for a Province-Wide Access to Justice Technology Platform Using Artificial Intelligence

Dear RFEOI Administrator,

On behalf of [lead respondent], we submit the attached questionnaire, indicative budget and supporting material as our expression of interest in [concept name]. We are responding [alone / as lead for the consortium identified in our response].

The undersigned confirms that:

- I am authorized to submit this response on behalf of the lead respondent.
- The information is accurate to the best of our knowledge. Estimates, assumptions and proposed partnerships are identified, and confirmed partner commitments are represented accurately.
- We have reviewed the RFEOI and acknowledge addenda [list numbers, or state none].
- Actual, potential and perceived conflicts are disclosed in [identify attachment or state none].
- We understand this is a non-binding information process, with no entitlement to funding, prequalification, a subsequent invitation or an agreement.
- We understand the information-use, confidentiality and intellectual-property terms in Section 5.0 and will bear our own preparation and participation costs.
- We will advise the Administrator of material changes to the information provided during the review period.

We welcome contact through the representative below for clarification or an optional meeting.

Authorized representative [Name]
Title [Title]
Lead respondent [Legal name]
Email and telephone [Contact details]

Signature _____ Date _____