

# LCE CONSULTANT | REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

## Overview

Inatai Foundation is requesting qualifications from organizations (nonprofit, private, or public corporations) to support the development of maps as a reference and learning tool for Inatai Foundation staff. **Specifically, we seek a tribally-led consultant to produce a set of sociopolitical maps that outline Tribal reservation and traditional homeland areas and include key landmarks including selected waterways and mountain ranges.** This project is an extension of work led by an internal team of Tribally affiliated staff that will continue to oversee the development of maps and the alignment with the project with a set of internal policies regarding land recognition payments, land acknowledgement practices, and team learning.

We are most interested in partnering with organizations who share our values and our commitment to equity and racial justice. We invite those who are interested in one or more of these areas of work to review this document and submit your qualifications by **March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024**.

## About Inatai Foundation

Inatai Foundation is a 501(c)(4) grantmaking foundation. We are committed to transforming the balance of power to ensure equity and racial justice across Washington and beyond. Our approach to philanthropy focuses on building relationships with community leaders and organizations as we develop our grantmaking strategies. We reflect on the experiences and guidance shared by people across Washington about what it means to be a respectful philanthropic partner. We fund a wide range of organizations and projects engaged in advocacy, leadership development, cultural reclamation, community healing, civic participation, organizing, anti-racism work, narrative change, and much more.

Following the 2018 hire of the Foundation's president and CEO, Nichole June Maher, we began an intentional effort to focus our earliest relationship-building with communities most impacted by inequities and in places that have been excluded from philanthropic funding—particularly rural communities and smaller cities across Washington. We have met with organizations engaged in transformative work across the state led by Black, Indigenous, and other people of color; immigrants and refugees; people with disabilities; members of the LGBTQ+ community; people living on low incomes; and many who hold several of these identities and experiences. Informed by these initial connections, we accelerated our grantmaking and team building from 2019 to 2022 and are poised for continued growth during the next few years.

## Areas of Work

From our earliest grant making to now, we have committed to learning from community leaders and ensuring our team is informed and knowledgeable about the true history of Washington state. Tribal histories and awareness of whose land we are on where we live, work, and bring people together have been an important part of our learning. For this learning, and for the development of our land recognition payment and land acknowledgement practices, we developed reference documents and basic maps of Tribal homelands and traditional land use areas for internal use. At this time we are seeking to develop a new set of maps with several key improvements to usability.

There are many resources that have aided in our understanding of the sociopolitical landscape of Tribal homelands, including maps created by area Tribes, historical records, and some of the same sources from which Our Home on Native Land (<https://native-land.ca>) uses. Still, it can be challenging to determine how to visually represent Tribal homelands. We look forward to partnering with a consultant team that is up for the challenge and reward of careful deliberation and thoughtful design.

An internal team of Tribally affiliated staff at Inatai Foundation serves as the primary leads of this project. This team will select the consultant, oversee the project, and provide input and feedback. The internal team will maintain editorial rights and continue to operate by a consensus-based decision-making process. We anticipate this project to continue beyond the first contract and result in multiple contracts as we build relationships and increase our learning with a larger network of Tribes in the region. The primary contact for the project is Emma Noyes, Research Director, [emman@inatai.org](mailto:emman@inatai.org).

## **Deliverables**

1) A series of maps as PDF files showing the traditional land use areas and homelands of Native American Tribes in and near the state of Washington, including Tribes seeking state and/or federal recognition. The approximate number of maps needed is 40. Maps to include the following information for reference where needed:

- a. Geographic landmarks including select rivers, mountains, mountain ranges
- b. Reservation borders
- c. County borders
- b. Several village/community sites
- c. Citations and footnotes

## **Qualifications**

Organization or entity led by Tribal people. A Tribal GIS/mapping team housed within a Tribal department would be an ideal consultant for this contract OR a tribally-led organization or company that has provided mapping services to Tribes.

## **Submission**

Interested applicants should submit a response by email to [Barbarag@inatai.org](mailto:Barbarag@inatai.org) with subject line "Tribal Maps RFP" by close of business on **March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. Please submit responses as a PDF that is **5 pages or less** (map work samples do not count toward total page count).

Please include the following:

- Proposed scope of work, including:
  - Kickoff meeting to go over the purpose of the maps, how maps are used by team members, review previous drafts of maps with notes on needed changes
  - Series of 4 meetings working alongside Inatai team
  - Inatai Foundation team review and feedback on maps
- Three work samples of maps containing the types of information described in deliverables above.
- Describe your background or experience providing consultation services to Tribes, Tribal departments or Tribal programs.
- Include references, preferably contacts that can speak to your work providing consultation services to Tribes, Tribal departments or Tribal programs.
- Include a budget or estimated cost of services.
- Briefly discuss your organization's approach to equity and diversity in the workplace.
- Please provide summary statistics on the racial, gender, LGBTQ+, and disability diversity of your organization and, separately, your executive leadership team and your ownership group.
- Do you have any policies or practices regarding non-discrimination? If so, please share with us.