



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

2026-2027 Saskatoon Cabling Project

Date Issued: July 13, 2026

ISSUED BY:

Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research Inc.
917 22nd Street West Saskatoon, SK, S7M 0R9

Proposal Closing Date: July 27, 2026

1. Introduction

Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) seeks proposals from qualified Contractors to upgrade the network infrastructure between designated buildings, and reorganization of network equipment and cabling. The goal is to enhance network performance, reliability, maintainability, and overall cable management in accordance with best practices in the industry.

2. Background

Gabriel Dumont Institute, established in 1980, is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the renewal and development of Métis culture through research, resource development, and the delivery of Métis-specific educational programs and services. GDI operates as the arm's length education affiliate of the Métis–Nation Saskatchewan.

GDI consists of five entities that collectively deliver education, training, employment services, scholarships, and cultural programming throughout the province of Saskatchewan. These programs and services are central to GDI's mission of supporting Métis learners and communities. GDI employs over 230 staff at 12 locations across Saskatchewan.

3. Project Objectives

- Replacing the existing Cat5e connection between building with new fibre optic cabling.
- Providing a redundant fibre connection to improve network reliability.
- Improving the organization and cabling management of all identified server rooms and network cabinets.
- Standardizing rack layouts, patch cabling, and labelling to industry best practices.
- Removing redundant or unused cables where approved by Gabriel Dumont Institute.
- Ensuring all work is tested, documented, and completed in accordance with industry standards.

4. Scope of Work

Fibre Connection

1. Remove the existing Cat5e cabling between Buildings 917 and 1003 (22nd St. West). Supply, install, terminate, label, test, and commission new fibre optic cabling between the buildings in accordance with industry standards and manufacturer specifications. Provide two independent fibre optic links: one primary connection and one redundant backup connection to ensure network resiliency. Both fibre runs shall be fully terminated, labelled, tested, and commissioned, with sufficient fibre strands to support current requirements and future expansion. There is a pre-existing underground conduit and pull lines installed between buildings.
 - Termination points are as follows:
 - a. 917 22nd St West: 2nd Floor patch cabinet in IT Office
 - b. 1003 22nd St West: Closet at back of reception area
 - Terminations will be made to a new Cisco Meraki switch via a 10G SFP+ transceiver to a compatible switch.
 - All cabling and termination to be tested and certified as per industry standards

Network Cabling - 917

2. Assess the existing server and network rack infrastructure and provide recommendations for the most appropriate rack and/or cabinet solution based on current equipment, future growth requirements, cable management, security, accessibility, ventilation, and industry best practices. Supply, install, and securely anchor the recommended solution in accordance with manufacturer specifications and applicable industry standards.
 - Clean up all cabling associated with the server room, including cables entering the room and connecting to servers. Cables are to be neatly routed and secured to improve cable management, removing excess cable length where possible, accessibility, and appearance. Remove any redundant or unused cabling with client approval.
 - All patch panels, switches and routers to be mounted to rack with switches mounted in between the patch panels.
 - New short patch cables (30 cm) to be installed between panel and switch to improve cable organization with the following colour coding:
 - a. Blue - standard network connection
 - b. Yellow - wireless access point
 - c. Green - server or uplink

- Work with Gabriel Dumont Institute IT to determine which ports need to connect to which device.
- All cabling and network drops shall be clearly labelled and tested to confirm proper termination, connectivity, and performance.

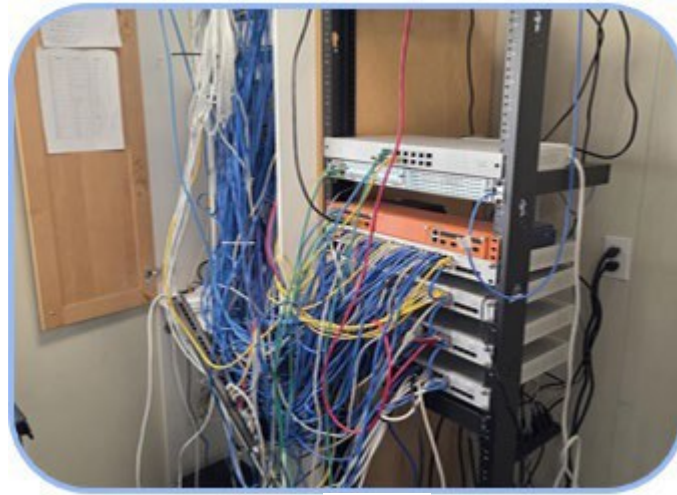


Fig. 1

Network Cabling - 1003

3. Assess the existing server and network rack infrastructure and provide recommendations for the most appropriate rack and/or cabinet solution based on current equipment, future growth requirements, cable management, security, accessibility, ventilation, and industry best practices. Supply, install, and securely anchor the recommended solution in accordance with manufacturer specifications and applicable industry standards. (See Fig. 2 & 3)
 - Clean up all cabling associated with the server room, including cables entering the room and connecting to servers. Cables are to be neatly routed and secured to improve cable management, removing excess cable length where possible, accessibility, and appearance. Remove any redundant or unused cabling with client approval.
 - Inspect and properly remount the conduit and electrical box to the wall in accordance with electrical installation standards.
 - Assess existing conditions and provide recommendations for appropriate security measures, including whether server rooms, racks, or cabinets should be secured with locks or other access controls. Supply and install the recommended solution in accordance with manufacturer specifications and applicable industry standards.
 - All cabling and network drops shall be clearly labelled and tested to confirm proper termination, connectivity,

and performance.

- All patch panels and switches to be mounted in cabinet and alternated between switch and panel.
- New short patch cables (30cm) to be supplied and installed with the following colour coding:
 - a. Blue - standard network connection
 - b. Yellow - wireless access point
 - c. Green - server or uplink
- There are 2 alternate smaller patch cabinets (see Fig. 3):
 - d. Reception
 - e. 2nd Floor office space
 - f. Supply and install short patch cables as per above colour standard.

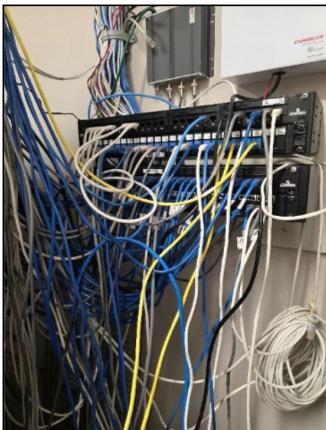


Fig 2. 1003 patch cabinet

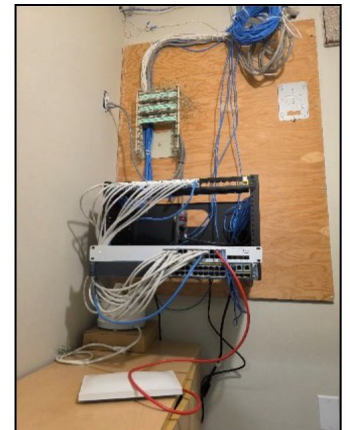
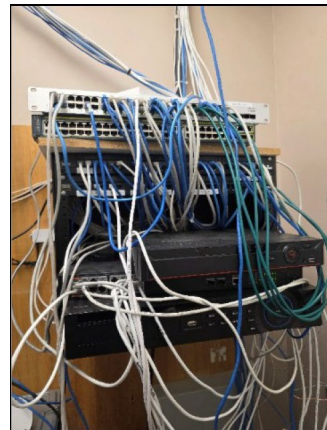
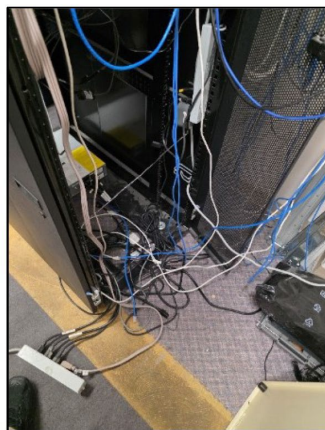


Fig 3. Secondary patch cabling

5. Final Deliverables

The successful vendor will provide the following deliverables upon completion of the project:

- Proper labelling of all fibre terminations, network terminations, patch panels, and network drops to ensure clear identification and future maintenance.
- Manufacturer warranties and product documentation for all equipment installed.
- A final walkthrough with Gabriel Dumont Institute IT and Facilities staff to review the completed installation and identify any outstanding deficiencies prior to project closeout.

6. Mandatory Requirements

Vendors must meet the following mandatory requirements:

- Qualified technicians
- Maintain valid workers compensation board coverage and provide proof of coverage.
- Maintain appropriate general liability insurance and provide proof of insurance

7. Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Relevant experience and qualifications related to fibre optic installations and network infrastructure upgrades.
- Understanding the project requirements and proposed approach to completing the work.
- Total estimated project costs.

8. Proposal Submission Instructions

Vendor proposals must be submitted in PDF or Word format by July 27, 2026.

Submissions should be sent to cody.tichkowsky@gdins.org with the subject line:

'RFP Submission – 2026 Saskatoon Cabling Project – Gabriel Dumont Institute'.

All work associated with this project must be completed by September 1, 2026.

9. Legal and Confidentiality Clauses

GDI reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal. All submitted materials will be treated as confidential and used solely for the purpose of evaluating the proposal. Vendors must comply with all applicable privacy laws and regulations such as the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act.

10. Indigenous Engagement Statement

GDI encourages proposals from Indigenous-owned businesses and those demonstrating a commitment to Indigenous engagement. Vendors should describe how their solution supports Métis cultural values and community inclusion.

11. Contact Information

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