

Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

From: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC)
Sent: March 26, 2020 11:27 PM
To: Church, Leslie (SPAC/PSPC)
Cc: **Murdock**, Kelly (SPAC/PSPC); Laycock, Tristan (SPAC/PSPC); Harris, Emily (SPAC/PSPC)
Subject: Re: For approval: Media response / COVID-19 - Procurement of ventilators, masks, swab kits and PPE

Ok thanks Leslie, I've made that change below and it will go out without the gowns mention in the morning.

Cecely

On Mar 26, 2020, at 10:32 PM, Church, Leslie (SPAC/PSPC) <leslie.church@canada.ca> wrote:

Hi, if still possible, the only thing I'd change is take out the mention of gowns. I don't believe any have been procured (global shortage).

From: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC)
Sent: March 26, 2020 8:57 PM
To: Church, Leslie (SPAC/PSPC) <leslie.church@canada.ca>
Cc: Murdock, Kelly (SPAC/PSPC) <kelly.murdock@canada.ca>; Laycock, Tristan (SPAC/PSPC) <tristan.laycock@canada.ca>; Harris, Emily (SPAC/PSPC) <emily.harris@canada.ca>
Subject: Re: For approval: Media response / COVID-19 - Procurement of ventilators, masks, swab kits and PPE

Hi Leslie,

Here are the responses for the same requests including changes from PMO, we're looking to get this out shortly but please let us know if you have any concerns or changes.

Thanks!
Cecely

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The Hill Times
Mazereeuw, Peter (The Hill Times)
Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Ventilator contracts

Q1. Can you please tell me how many contracts the government has awarded for the production of medical ventilators since the beginning of January?

RESPONSE:

Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is supporting the whole-of-government response to COVID-19 by spearheading the consolidated purchase of emergency equipment, supplies and services for federal, provincial and territorial needs.

As the COVID-19 situation is very fluid and evolving rapidly every day, so too are our requirements and orders. We are placing as many orders as possible with suppliers who have the capacity to meet our needs — and the needs of the provinces and territories — now and well into the future. We are exploring all opportunities to secure available supply, including in both large and small quantities.

The Government of Canada is engaging both new and existing suppliers, as well as are working with the more than 14,000 supplier submissions to our proactive call-out to businesses who may have the supplies we need on [BuyandSell.gc.ca](https://buyandsell.gc.ca). We are also working directly with Canadian industry to scale-up and re-tool to produce essential medical supplies like masks and ventilators needed in Canada's fight against COVID-19.

As a result of our [call-out](#) and through engagement with our supplier network, we have already purchased a broad range of personal protective equipment and supplies, including swabs, tests kits, gloves, masks, as well as ventilators. While delivery timelines vary, additional deliveries began in mid-March.

We continue to work with all available suppliers who have the capacity to respond to Canada's needs. In addition, we are continuously working with the Public Health Agency of Canada to determine their technical specifications and requirements, as well as those for provinces and territories.

For any questions related to technical specifications and requirements and regarding the distribution of material please contact the Public Health Agency of Canada.

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La Presse

Leclerc, William (La Presse)

Tier 1 - COVID-19: Number of contracts awarded and employees affected

QUESTIONS / RESPONSE:

Q1. Is it possible to provide me with a list of all contracts awarded in relation to COVID-19 and coronavirus over the past 90 days, up to today, March 25, 2020? I want to know the name of each supplier, the monetary value of each contract, the kind of materials, medical equipment, medical devices, masks, and/or other services purchased.

Publics Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is supporting the whole-of-government response to COVID-19 by heading up the consolidated procurement of emergency supplies and services for federal, provincial and territorial communities.

As the situation regarding COVID-19 is extremely fluid and changes rapidly every day, so do our requirements and orders. We are placing as many orders as we can with our suppliers that can meet our needs, as well as the needs of the provinces and territories, now and in the future. We are exploring all options for securing available supplies, including large and small quantities.

The Government of Canada is engaging with new and existing suppliers and is working with more than 14,000 bids that have been submitted from suppliers as part of our proactive call for tenders to companies that might have the supplies we need through the <https://buyandsell.gc.ca/> website. We are also working directly with Canadian industry to increase and retool the production of essential medical supplies such as the masks and ventilators needed for Canada's fight against COVID-19.

As a result of our [call for bids](#) and our engagement with our network of suppliers, we have already purchased a wide range of personal protective equipment and supplies, including swabs, test kits, gloves, masks and respirators. Delivery times vary, but some additional supplies began arriving in mid-March.

We continue to work with available suppliers that can meet Canada's needs. In addition, we are working with the Public Health Agency of Canada on an ongoing basis to identify the technical specifications and needs of that agency as well as those of the provinces and territories.

Q2. I would also like to know how many PSPC employees have contracted COVID-19 to date.

R2. We are aware of a few confirmed cases of COVID-19 among public servants, and given the rapidly changing situation, we are exercising caution so as not to misrepresent the situation. All departments are responding appropriately to any suspected or confirmed cases and are following the guidance of Health Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada.

On Mar 26, 2020, at 5:30 PM, Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC)
[<cecely.roy@canada.ca>](mailto:cecely.roy@canada.ca) wrote:

I am also adding a similar request with the same response in French for La Presse. This is copied below under the response in English for your reference.

Cecely Roy

Press Secretary / Attachée de presse

Office of the Minister of Public Services and Procurement / Bureau de la ministre des Services publics et de l'Approvisionnement

(343) 549-7293

On Mar 26, 2020, at 5:07 PM, Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC)
[<cecely.roy@canada.ca>](mailto:cecely.roy@canada.ca) wrote:

Hi Leslie,

For your context we are holding off on sending this response to David at Reuters. I spoke with him today to provide the context that we may have more to say in the coming days, and he is fine with waiting.

That being said, please let me know if you have changes to the response below to be sent to the Hill Times.

Thanks,

Cecely

1) Media response

Reuters-Canada

Litwegg(Fella)aviel-MeuteFs-Callacia)

received:

Deadline: March-26-20 at 11:10

Tier 1 COVID-19 Procurement of ventilators, masks, swab kits and PPE

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q1, Why did you buy ventilators from? Have they been delivered yet or just committed?

Q2, How did you pull this off when so many other ofdef4n before the US federal or state governments?

Q3, Any progress on N95 masks? We have heard a rumour that 3M is refusing to ship to Canada have you fun into anything like that on masks or other equipment?

Q4, What is the solution on N95 masks? Are there lesser known suppliers that you think we can turn to? Is this a problem that will only be solved with new domestic production?

Q5, Why did you buy the swabs from?

Q6, Is the personal protective equipment that you have promised Ontario (and presumably other provinces) going to come from the federal stockpile where it has been stored or are these new purchases?

2) Media response

The Hill Times

Mazereeuw, Peter (The Hill Times)

Date call received: March-25-20 at 17:15

Deadline: March-26-20 at 16:00

Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Ventilator contracts

Q1. Can you please tell me how many contracts the government has awarded for the production of medical ventilators since the beginning of January?

RESPONSE:

Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is supporting the whole-of-government response to COVID-19 by spearheading the consolidated purchase of emergency equipment, supplies and services for federal, provincial and territorial needs.

The COVID-19 situation is very fluid and evolving rapidly every day, as are our requirements and orders. We are placing as many orders as possible with suppliers who have the capacity to meet our needs—now and into the future. It would be **very** difficult to provide an accurate number at any given time. We are exploring all opportunities to secure available supply, including **in both** large and small quantities.

As a result of our **call-out** and through engagement with our supplier network, we have already purchased a broad range of personal protective equipment and supplies, including swabs, tests kits, gloves, masks and gowns, **as well as ventilators**. While delivery timelines vary, **some additional** deliveries began in mid-March.

We continue to work with all available suppliers who have the capacity to respond to Canada's needs. In addition, we are continuously working with the Public Health Agency of Canada to determine their technical specifications and requirements, as well as those for provinces and territories.

For any questions related to technical specifications and requirements and regarding the distribution of material please contact the Public Health Agency of Canada.

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La Presse

Leclerc, William (La Presse)

Date Call Received: March 24, 2020 7:30 PM

Deadline: March 27, 2020 4:00 PM

Tier 1 - COVID-19: Number of contracts awarded and employees affected

BACKGROUND: The researcher would like information on contracts awarded related to the coronavirus and the number of departmental employees who have contracted COVID-19.

La Presse reports regularly on the number of people infected in various organizations.

Q1 related to Commercial Acquisitions.

Q2 has been forwarded to Health Canada.

Q3 comes from a TBS-approved answer. However, FYI, the answer is NONE as of this morning.

QUESTIONS / RESPONSE:

Q1. Is it possible to provide me with a list of all contracts awarded in relation to COVID-19 and coronavirus over the past 90 days, up to today, March 25, 2020? I want to know the name of each supplier, the monetary value of each contract, the kind of materials, medical equipment, medical devices, masks, and/or other services purchased. (AB-COMMERCIAL)

Publics Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is supporting the whole-of-government response to COVID-19 by heading up the consolidated procurement of emergency supplies and services for federal, provincial and territorial communities.

As the situation regarding COVID-19 is extremely fluid and changes rapidly every day, so do our requirements and orders. It would be **extremely** difficult to provide exact figures at any given time.

We are placing as many orders as we can with our suppliers that can meet our needs, as well as the needs of the provinces and territories, now and in the future. We are exploring all options for securing available supplies, including large and small quantities.

As a result of our [call for bids](#) and our engagement with our network of suppliers, we have already purchased a wide range of personal protective equipment and supplies, including swabs, test kits, gloves, masks, gowns **and respirators**. Delivery times vary, but some **additional** supplies began arriving in mid-March.

We continue to work with available suppliers that can meet Canada's needs. In addition, we are working with the Public Health Agency of Canada on an ongoing basis to identify the technical specifications and needs of that agency as well as those of the provinces and territories.

Q2. I would also like to know the cost of advertising campaigns. (Health Canada/PHAC)

Q3. I would also like to know how many PSPC employees have contracted COVID-19 to date.

R3. As indicated by the Treasury Board Secretariat last week, work is under way to centralize information on confirmed cases within the public service, and more information will be made available in due course. We are aware of a few confirmed cases of COVID-19 among public servants, and given the rapidly changing situation, we are exercising caution so as not to misrepresent the situation.