

## Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

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**From:** Media <[media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** September 30, 2020 4:14 PM  
**To:** Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC); fitz-morris, James (SPAC/PSPC)  
**Cc:** Media; Jean-François Létourneau; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Elizabeth Lindsay; Bryan Blom; James Stott; Vivianne Soubhie; Sara Lacasse; Rachel Lagacé  
**Subject:** For MO Approval: Media Response / Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Bolloré and procurement / L'Actualité  
**Attachments:** Réponse L'Actualité\_FR.DOCX

Hi Cecely, James,

We have made the changes requested except for one. Instead of "received", we recommend to use "secured", as highlighted below.

The rationale behind it is that we have ordered more than 2 billion items, but have received 820.8 million pieces. Yesterday the minister used the word "secured" in that sentence in the presser, so this is what we would recommend here as well, if you agree.

As for a timeline, it will take approximately a week to get the additional info requested. Based on the reporter's request, we do believe he would be satisfied to have the response below, along with the info available in the web table.

We will wait for your approval before sending this response to the reporter.

Thank you  
Stefanie

**Media Response**  
**L'actualité**  
**Castonguay, Alec (L'actualité)**  
**Date of receipt of call: September-17-20 at 3:55 p.m.**  
**Deadline: September 25, 2020 at 4 p.m.**  
**Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Bolloré and procurement**

### CONTEXT:

Journalist, and chief of staff at the magazine L'actualité, is writing a book on the pandemic and would like to obtain some information about flights between Canada and China.

### VALUES STATEMENT:

### QUESTIONS / ANSWERS:

**Q1. How many flights did Bolloré take between China and Canada between March 1 and May 1, 2020, as part of the contract Canada signed with that company?**

**Q2. What type of aircraft was used by Bolloré? Were they Air Canada planes? What type of aircraft? Airbus? What type?**

**Q3. How many flights returned to Canada empty (or flights that were cancelled because the cargo was not ready to be loaded)?**

**A1-3.**The agreement in place with Bolloré Logistics Canada Inc. is for transportation, receiving, storage services and support with customs clearances on the ground in China. Oversight is maintained throughout the process from the point of pick up from the supplier until supplies are loaded onto the plane and departs. This end to end approach is in place to navigate the complex supply chain environment, and includes working with Canadian airline partners, Air Canada and CargoJet, to carry the personal protective equipment (PPE) and medical supplies back to Canada.

From March 1. to May 1. 2020, we received **21** flights of supplies from China carrying personal protective equipment (PPE).

In April, one federally chartered cargo flight returned from China to Canada without the intended Government of Canada cargo on board. This occurred due to a confluence of circumstances including a significant surge in cargo flights out of terminals at the Shanghai Airport at that time meaning that this cargo wasn't able to make it on board in time. This flight however was loaded with cargo belonging to other Canadian entities and returned to Canada carrying that cargo. The carrier credited the Government of Canada for the costs of that flight.

We have seen a steady flow of orders make their way to Canada with **114** flights carrying PPE and medical supplies to equip essential workers in Canada, as of September 21, 2020.

Over the past months the federal government has further diversified our supply chains for PPE and medical supplies, including establishing and scaling up Canadian production of goods ranging from face shields, to surgical masks, to the reagents needed to process COVID-19 tests. To date, Canada has **secured** more than 2 billion items of PPE. Deliveries of PPE and supplies include shipments from domestic manufacturers, by sea, and directly from international suppliers in addition to the federally chartered international cargo flights.

**Q4. On your web site, we can see the quantity of items ordered and received to date (end of August). I would like to have the same information for the same type of equipment, but for February, March, April and May, broken down by month.**

**Q5. How many orders for each month, and how much received for each month in each category?**

**A4-5.** The following quantities of items were ordered and received from international and national suppliers for the months of February, March, April and May, as well as the number of items shipped and received for these items during the same period. (attachment)