

Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

From: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Sent: June 10, 2020 12:55 PM
To: Reza, Arianne (Ext.); Michael Mills
Cc: Angela Intranuovo; Bryan Blom; Carole Charette; Caroline Audette; Lord, David (Ext.); Elizabeth Lindsay; Christensen, Esther (Ext.); Boulay, Francois (Ext.); Geneviève Côté; Irene Wu; James Stott; Jean-François Létourneau; Jeff Van Zyl; Jody Wood; Judith Rorai; Julie Hahn; Karim Adam; Liaison; Lucie Brosseau; Maria Cama; Marie-Christine Lalonde; Marie-Claude Hurens; Media; Medias Sociaux / Social Media (TPSGC/PWGSC); Melissa Pacheco; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Mia Arruda; Mohamed Lash; Nathalie Larocque; Nicholas Dorion; Pamela Eades; Rachel Lagacé; Renee Stephen; Rosemary Kinnis; Sara Lacasse; Sarah Moreau-Bélanger; Selma Mesri; Sonia Harvey; Tracey Paterson; Usman Chaudhry; Amanda Semaan; Annie Scalis; Brigitte Boucher; Crystal Allan; Edith Dauphinais; Haley Walsh; Isabelle Aubin; Jenny Bascur; Michael Milito; Nathalie Bétoté Akwa; Nicolas Boucher; PA DGA Bureau SMA / AP PB ADM Office (TPSGC/PWGSC); Vanessa Audette
Subject: Media Heads-Up / Tier 1 - COVID-19 - NSE and defective PPE / CBC National News (Parliamentary Bureau)

The following media request has been identified as **Tier 1**.

Communications sector will work with your group to develop the first draft response. New information not previously approved should be identified in purple.

Highest level of approval: MO

Program ADM approved response: June-10-20 at 15:05

Media heads-up

CBC National News (Parliamentary Bureau)

Thompson, Elizabeth (CBC National News (Parliamentary Bureau))

Date call received: June-10-20 at 12:20

Deadline: June-10-20 at 17:00

Tier 1 - COVID-19 - NSE and defective PPE

CONTEXT (for your information):

The reporter is seeking to obtain a list of contracts awarded under the National Security Exemption (NSE) in relation to COVID-19.

It was mentioned during the parliamentary committee yesterday that some of the good the government had purchased related to COVID-19, were found to be defective. She is hoping to get an answer to this portion by the end of the day, today.

VALUE STATEMENT:

QUESTIONS / RESPONSES:

Q1. Could I please get a copy of the list of contracts awarded under the NSE, including the suppliers, the value of the contracts, and the goods or services to be provided?

Q2. Could I please get a breakdown of what goods were found to be defective, the quantities, and the suppliers?

Response provided to The Canadian Press on May 29, 2020.

The Government of Canada is engaged in an unprecedented effort to acquire supplies and equipment to ensure that our front-line healthcare workers and Canadians stay safe and healthy. Throughout this pandemic, there has been a surge in global demand for the PPE and medical supplies needed in response to COVID-19. As a result, we are operating in a highly competitive marketplace, and facing the risks posed by fragile international supply chains.

Some of the procurements being carried out in response to COVID-19 are being done under a national security exception (NSE), meaning that the associated solicitation documents are not published on Buy-and-Sell. The NSE allows us to move as quickly as possible to procure large quantities of life-saving equipment, which are then tested and deployed into the health system. Without the use of the NSE, in some cases, tenders are required to remain open for weeks. Given the urgency of Canada's needs as we face this pandemic and the environment in which we are currently operating, this length of time would not be feasible. Similar procurement flexibilities are being applied by other countries around the world, due to COVID-19.

We are not operating in normal circumstances. Considering the fierce global competition for the same products, if we were to disclose information about specific contracts or suppliers, we could jeopardize Canada's supply chains for these life-saving products, putting our delivery to Canada and into the hands of frontline health care workers at risk.