

Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

From: Media <media@tps-gc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Sent: June 15, 2020 8:56 PM
To: Reza, Arianne (Ext.); Michael Scandiffio
Cc: Amanda Semaan; Annie Scalisi; Brigitte Boucher; Crystal Allan; Edith Dauphinais; Haley Walsh; Isabelle Aubin; Jenny Bascur; Mia Arruda; Michael Milito; Nathalie Bétoté Akwa; Nicolas Boucher; PA DGA Bureau SMA / AP PB ADM Office (TPSGC/PWGSC); Vanessa Audette; 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; Médias Sociaux / Social Media (TPSGC/PWGSC); Melissa Pacheco; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; 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
Subject: Media Heads-Up / Tier 1 - Covid-19 - Follow-up: Purchase of non-medical face cloth masks / National Post

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-16-20 at 11:00

Media heads-up

National Post

Blackwell, Tom (National Post)

Date call received: June-15-20 at 09:00

Deadline: June-16-20 at 17:00

Tier 1 - Covid-19 - Purchase of non-medical face cloth masks

CONTEXT (for your information):

The reporter has follow-up questions after the response PSPC provided him with on June 12 in relation to Covid-19 and to the purchase of non-medical face cloth masks.

VALUE STATEMENT:

QUESTIONS / RESPONSES:

Q1. Can you be more specific about who or what type of worker would be given these masks, and how they would be distributed?

Q2. If this is for non-government workers, why would the government purchase them and not their employers?

Q3. When you say this is for "pandemic preparedness", do you mean this particular COVID-19 pandemic, or for future pandemics?

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Previous response provided on June 12, 2020 to the National Post:

The Government of Canada is collaborating with provinces and territories on an ongoing basis to identify their needs and purchase required equipment, supplies, and services to combat COVID-19.

Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is taking an aggressive approach to buying, especially when it comes to personal protective equipment for frontline healthcare workers. This includes:

- Ordering ahead in bulk on behalf of provinces and territories
- Supplementing those orders by purchasing limited-availability supplies that are immediately available
- Ramping up the domestic manufacturing capacity, through the Plan to Mobilize Industry to fight COVID-19, being led by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada

This is over and above the efforts provinces and territories are taking to secure their own supply.

Here is PSPC's response to your query.

Q1. Can you provide me with more information about this tender? In particular, is the intention to distribute these masks to the general public or workers widely, or are they just intended for employees of the federal government?

As part of the Government of Canada's response to COVID-19, we are anticipating Canada's potential future needs and preparing for any eventuality through the procurement of PPE and supplies. We are planning ahead to help keep Canadians safe and healthy.

Through this tender, we are looking to purchase approximately 13.5 million non-medical face cloth masks, for use outside of the health sector. These cloth masks will be purchased as part of our overall pandemic preparedness plans, and may be used in a variety of organizations and settings.