

**PM speaking notes for the June 2 COVID-19 update
2 June 2020**

Good morning, everybody.

I want to begin this morning by wishing everyone a happy Italian Heritage Month.

For generations, Italian-Canadians have made our country a stronger, better place. So it comes as no surprise that during this pandemic— just like always —this community is stepping up to help.

- Maybe you've been taking groceries over to an elderly neighbour
- Or maybe you were one of many who helped raise \$1 million for the Italian Red Cross
- However you're lending a hand: thank you
- It just goes to show that we are stronger together.

The values embodied by the Italian community—work, family, generosity—are important to all of us.

As we celebrate Italian Heritage Month, we recognize the many ways in which this community contributes to our country and our lives.

[Pause]

Right now, I know a lot of Canadians are wondering when their community will be able to get back up and running.

The short answer is that it depends on where you live, and how things are going for your city or your region. That's why every province and territory has its own plan to restart.

But as I said yesterday, as a country, defeating COVID-19 is something we have to do together.

Our government knows that, which is why I've been collaborating with the Premiers on a shared approach moving forward.

Just yesterday, we took a first step, with funding for municipalities. Of course, help for cities and towns is just one piece of the puzzle.

We know that provinces and territories also need support on securing personal protective equipment, and other vital supplies.

And here too, we're doing our part.

[Pause]

Over the last two months, our government has been working around the clock to secure vital PPE.

So for example, as of today, we have more than 100 million surgical masks, and more than 40 million gloves.

Working with suppliers from around the world is key to keeping Canadians safe.

But at the end of the day, the best way to ensure we have what we need —well, it's to make it right here at home.

And that's why our government has been working with Canadian companies to make that happen. Over half of our face shields were made in Canada.

Working with companies like Canadian Shield —which retooled to make visors and went from 10 employees to 200— is win-win. Not only do we build our capacity to make these supplies at home, we support good jobs for Canadians.

And the same goes for testing.

We are now funding four Canadian companies who are working on providing potentially breakthrough solutions for COVID-19 rapid testing— Deep Biologics in Guelph, Fourien in Edmonton, Metabolic Insights in Kelowna, and Nicova Lifesciences in Kitchener.

We have now signed contracts for new testing technologies with four more Canadian companies: Deep Biologics in Guelph, Fourien in Edmonton, Metabolic Insights in Kelowna, and Nicova Lifesciences in Kitchener.

This is on top of the funding for testing we've already provided, including for Precision Biomonitoring as they set up a test kit manufacturing facility in Ontario.

[Pause]

We are making huge progress, but we have to keep going.

As we restart the economy, demand for supplies will go up. And we need to make sure Canada can keep up.

So whether it's N95 masks or sterilization machines, we will continue work with the provinces and territories to get us the supplies we need going forward.

[Pause]

Whether it is obtaining personal protective equipment or supporting municipalities, we will continue working with the provincial premiers and the territories to ensure people's safety.

Hundreds of thousands of items have already been distributed to front-line workers since the beginning of the crisis.

But we know that, in the long term, the best way to ensure that we have the equipment we need is to manufacture it at home.

So over the past few months, we have made targeted investments to increase our production capacity.

Today, almost half of our face shield inventory is made in Canada.

Progress is also being made in the area of diagnostic testing.

Contracts have been signed with several Canadian companies to develop new testing technologies.

This is in addition to the investments we have already made to increase testing. One of the companies being supported is Precision Biomonitoring in Ontario, which is setting up a plant to manufacture test kits.

We are moving in the right direction, but we need to do more. As the economy recovers, demand for this type of product will increase. That is only natural.

We will therefore continue working with the provinces and territories to make sure that they have enough personal protective equipment.

[Pause]

To ~~get Canadians the support they need~~ support Canadian jobs to restart the economy, we have to work together. And not just as governments, but across sectors, too.

Last month, we set up the Industry Strategy Council. Led by Minister Bains and chaired by Monique Leroux, their mandate is to take a deeper dive into the specific challenges and pressures that different industries are experiencing ~~and potential solutions for different industries.~~

And today, I can announce the Council's membership. [HOLDING FOR INDUSTRY STRATEGY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP].

This team will bring together government and industry, as we plan our path forward.

Since the beginning of the crisis, we have seen how important mutual aid and solidarity are.

But that does not just apply to the pandemic.

There are so many issues worldwide that cannot be dealt with by one government or one country.

I am thinking, for example, of the fight against climate change.

This is a priority for our government and we will continue to take action to protect our children's and our planet's future.

But we cannot do it alone. And the good news is that we do not have to do it alone.

For example, the Powering Past Coal Alliance, which has over 100 members around the world, is doing an incredible job of improving air quality.

In a few moments, the Alliance will unveil its new members, including Desjardins.

Desjardins will become the first North American financial institution to join the Alliance.

Here again, Canadians are leading the way.

And our government will always be there to support this type of initiative.

Thank you