

## Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

---

**From:** Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC)  
**Sent:** June 7, 2020 4:00 PM  
**To:** fitz-morris, James (SPAC/PSPC)  
**Cc:** Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC); Laycock, Tristan (SPAC/PSPC); Church, Leslie (SPAC/PSPC); Singh, Nanki (SPAC/PSPC); Mullan-Boudreau, Caitlin (SPAC/PSPC)  
**Subject:** Re: OGGO remarks

Hello,

Dropping MAA - a few flags on the remarks:

- In the intro section - the NSE doesn't relate to public disclosure of contract and supplier details. It looks like this is accurately reflected in the department's updated version of these remarks. Here's the language we've used around disclosure of COVID contracts in media responses:

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. 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.

However, we are posting some solicitation documents for COVID-19 related procurements on Buy-and-Sell, particularly where the timeline to secure the particular good or service allows for more flexibility, and in cases where we need to broaden our search for information or sources of supply. For example, we recently published a Request for Proposal for logistics services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Another example is the Notice of Proposed Procurement for cloth face masks, which we recently published on behalf of the Department of National Defence.

While we are not able to disclose specific details regarding suppliers and contracts related procurement as part of the COVID-19 response at this time given the current

environment, we intend to provide more information at a time when this level of risk has passed.

- Also wondering if we want to include deliveries from S Korea and Japan in addition to US & China to demonstrate that we are diversifying our supply chains:
  - We have received more than X Million testing swabs including shipments that we are bringing in from South Korea and Japan.
- It also says medical masks rather than surgical on page 6..
- And, this would be the first time we're announcing the Abbott contract - I'd argue for saving that for a presser! Questions have come up from reporters many times on whether we are procuring sero tests. Understanding that this is for research purposes, it's still a decent announceable if framed well. Not sure if this is something that the Minister asked for..

Thanks,

Cecely Roy  
343-549-7293

On Jun 7, 2020, at 2:00 PM, fitz-morris, James (SPAC/PSPC) <james.fitz-morris@canada.ca> wrote:

Hi Minister,

Attached is a revision of your OGGO appearance based on Friday's call. I understand the Department is also working on a revision, but I haven't seen that yet. I will review when it comes in to see if it further affects this draft. The biggest change is to tackle the issue of contract disclosure off the top in a very direct way. As you rightly mentioned on Friday, it obviously won't stop the opposition from pressing on it, but at least you will be able to preface each of your responses with: As I already mentioned....

These remarks, as written are probably close to 8 minutes. They are structured in a way that, should the Chair decide to cut you off at the 5 minute mark, you will have made all of your COVID-related points and it is the Phoenix update that would be cut – which could then simply become your response to the first question on the topic.

I have pressed PMO to find out if we are confirmed for the news conference on Tuesday and have not heard back yet. Nor have I seen the draft remarks the Dept is working on – but will continue to press for those as well.

James

James Fitz-Morris  
Directeur des communications / Director of Communications  
Cabinet de la ministre des Services publics et de l'Approvisionnement / Office of the Minister of Public Services and Procurement  
[james.fitz-morris@canada.ca](mailto:james.fitz-morris@canada.ca)  
Cell : 613-698-2387

<Min Opening Remarks - OGGO - JF Edits.docx>