

## Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

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**From:** Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** May 21, 2020 4:38 PM  
**To:** fitz-morris, James (SPAC/PSPC); Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC)  
**Cc:** Elizabeth Lindsay; James Stott; Jean-François Létourneau; Lucie Brosseau; Martine Skelton; Media; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Rachel Lagacé; Sara Lacasse; Vivianne Soubhie  
**Subject:** For MO approval - Media response / Tier 1 / COVID-19 - Name of Chinese companies of faulty PPEs / Ottawa Citizen

Good afternoon Cecely and James,

For MO approval, please.

Thanks,

Marc  
873-354-7219

### **Media response**

#### **Ottawa Citizen**

**Pugliese, David (Ottawa Citizen)**

**Date call received: May-20-20 at 12:55**

**Deadline: May-21-20 at 17:00**

Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Name of Chinese companies of faulty PPEs

### **CONTEXT (for your information):**

The reporter was reviewing transcripts and news articles about DM Bill Matthews declining to provide a parliamentary committee the names of the Chinese companies that provided Canada with faulty PPE/respirators, and is looking for answers to his questions.

### **VALUE STATEMENT:**

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

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

**Q1. Why did DM Matthews decline to provide the names of these firms? Was it because he didn't want to upset the Chinese government?**

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. We are aggressively procuring in the global marketplace, while facing the risks posed by fragile supply chains, the fluidity of the current situation, and a surge in demand.

In order to protect the integrity of our procurement processes, as well as the integrity of global supply chains, we need to exercise caution at this time with information we are providing about specific suppliers.

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 Buyandsell. This allows the response to move rapidly as we purchase goods and services to protect the health and safety of Canadians as we face this pandemic. Similar procurement flexibilities are being applied by other countries around the world, due to COVID-19.

However, we are posting some solicitation documents for COVID-19 related procurements on Buyandsell, particularly where the timeline to secure the particular good or service allows for more flexibility. 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.

We have also publicly announced several contracts over the past few weeks and will continue to do so. We are also providing information about our response, for example, by posting details of our orders and deliveries of personal protective equipment [online](#).