

Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

From: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Sent: April 28, 2020 4:47 PM
To: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC)
Subject: RE: For MO approval - Media response - Tier 1 / COVID-19 - PPE shortages and price gouging in Canada / The Washington Post

Cecely,

I am going through the weekend's records and I am unsure which paragraph you are speaking about. Can you tell me in which media request that paragraph would have been?

Charles.

From: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC) [mailto:cecely.roy@canada.ca]
Sent: April 28, 2020 4:20 PM
To: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Emily Harris <Emily.Harris@canada.ca>
Cc: Bryan Blom <Bryan.Blom@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Elizabeth Lindsay <Elizabeth.Lindsay@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger <MeShel.GulliverBelanger@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: For MO approval - Media response - Tier 1 / COVID-19 - PPE shortages and price gouging in Canada / The Washington Post

Hi there,

Revised response below is approved by MO with addition to be included (highlighted).

Thank you,
Cecely

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QUESTION AND ANSWER:

Q1. Has Canada, with more centralized purchasing and administration, also been relatively successful in fighting price gouging and distribution inequities?

As the Government of Canada's central purchaser, our **sole primary** objective is to secure the **essential** supplies that **frontline** healthcare workers need to protect themselves and Canadians, **as we face the COVID-19 pandemic**.

Our Canada's procurement specialists are working around the clock, in close collaboration with the Public Health Agency of Canada and Health Canada **as well as with provinces and territories**, to secure needed equipment and supplies.

We are taking an aggressive approach to buying—especially when it comes to personal protective equipment for frontline healthcare workers. This is being done by working directly with both new and existing domestic and international suppliers and manufacturers, as well as ramping up the domestic

manufacturing capacity, through the Plan to Mobilize Industry to fight COVID-19, to meet both short and long term needs.

In a market characterized by a surge in demand, we are buying existing inventory where we can and placing large orders to create and maintain a steady stream of goods flowing from diverse sources over the coming months and in anticipation of future needs. ~~to ensure supplies are available for provinces, territories, frontline health workers and Canadians.~~

We now have regular shipments arriving from international suppliers, and deliveries for supplies like hand sanitizer and face shields from Canadian companies is increasing as more sources of domestic supply come on line. This is over and above the efforts provinces and territories are taking to secure their own supply.

~~While it is much too early to speculate about total costs, we recognize that we are operating within a highly volatile market and there is intense global demand for scarce supply and this, without question, is translating into higher costs.~~ **Insert paragraph here from approved response sent in on Saturday addressing cost increase.**

~~With regard to the distribution of supplies, From the outset of our procurement response to COVID-19 the Government of Canada has been working in direct collaboration with the Public Health Agency of Canada as well as in partnership with are-working provinces and territories to inform our bulk buying approach.~~

As part of this approach, we are also providing assistance in shipping supplies ~~by air from China. orders made directly by other jurisdictions with international suppliers for provinces including the provinces of Ontario, Nova Scotia and Quebec as well as the Canadian Red Cross, and territories have been included on our cargo flights chartered by the Government of Canada and transported back to Canada. After receipt, supplies are before being distributed to provinces and territories as quickly as possible, under the oversight of the Public Health Agency of Canada.~~

The Government of Canada will continue to work tirelessly to secure the necessary supplies to meet both Canada's short and long term needs - working with a range of domestic and international suppliers.

~~For more information on how supplies are being distributed, please contact the Public Health Agency of Canada.~~

From: Media [<mailto:media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>]

Sent: April 28, 2020 12:18 PM

To: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC) <cecely.roy@canada.ca>; Harris, Emily (SPAC/PSPC) <emily.harris@canada.ca>

Cc: Bryan Blom <Bryan.Blom@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Elizabeth Lindsay <Elizabeth.Lindsay@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Emmanuelle Gallays <Emmanuelle.Gallays@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; James Stott <James.Stott@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Jean-François Létourneau <Jean-Francois.Letourneau@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Martine Skelton <Martine.Skelton@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger <MeShel.GulliverBelanger@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Sara Lacasse <Sara.Lacasse@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Vivianne Soubhie <Vivianne.Soubhie@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>

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Afternoon Cecely, Emily,

For your approval.

Charles.

Media response

The Washington Post

Hamburger, Tom (The Washington Post)

Date call received: April-27-20 at 11:10

Deadline: April-27-20 at 17:00

Tier 1 - COVID-19 - PPE shortages and price gouging in Canada

CONTEXT (for your information):

The reporter had an interview over the weekend with a former deputy health minister from the Netherlands, who described that country's struggle to locate masks and other PPE, one that has far less price gouging and confusion than what they are experiencing in the U.S.
The reporter is looking for an overall assessment of how things are going.

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 everything that is 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.

QUESTION AND ANSWER:

Q1. Has Canada, with more centralized purchasing and administration, also been relatively successful in fighting price gouging and distribution inequities?

As the Government of Canada's central purchaser, our sole objective is to secure the supplies that healthcare workers need to protect themselves and Canadians.

Our procurement specialists are working around the clock, in close collaboration with the Public Health Agency of Canada and Health Canada, to secure needed equipment and supplies. We are

working directly with both new and existing suppliers and manufacturers and mobilizing Canadian industry to increase domestic capacity.

We are placing as many orders as possible in anticipation of future needs, to ensure supplies are available for provinces, territories, frontline health workers and Canadians. This is over and above the efforts provinces and territories are taking to secure their own supply.

While it is much too early to speculate about total costs, we recognize that we are operating within a highly volatile market and there is intense global demand for scarce supply and this, without question, is translating into higher costs.

With regard to the distribution of supplies, we are working with provinces and territories to provide assistance in shipping supplies by air from China. Orders for provinces and territories have been included on our flights **and transported back to Canada** before being distributed to provinces and territories as quickly as possible, under the oversight of the Public Health Agency of Canada.

For more information on how supplies are being distributed, please contact the Public Health Agency of Canada.