

StJames, Louise (PHAC/ASPC)

Subject: Summary of the Parliamentarian briefing at 4:30 p.m.

The operator advised that there were 144 participants on the call as of 4:30 p.m. The exact numbers and the list of participants will be available tomorrow.

Dr. Njoo provided the opening remarks which were based on the talking points from the Press Conference held earlier in the afternoon. There were several questions asked.

Questions:

Scot Davidson (CPC) asked about the correlation between people who have received the flu shot and those who have not in relation to COVID-19. Dr. Njoo advised that there is no vaccine for the novel coronavirus and that the flu shot is for influenza and therefore there is no correlation.

Tamara Jensen (CPC) Are there any other MPs who have tested positive. Dr. Njoo replied that it is private information and he would not be made aware of this. She asked a second question about a group of her constituents that is presently in Guatemala that are trying to get home, what should they do. Dr. Njoo advised them to contact consular services.

A Ms. Kazan (likely a staffer as we could not find her in the list of MPs and Senators) asked what are we doing to protect First Nations. She then asked what kind of support are we giving to shelters. Dr. Njoo replied that it is a regional responsibility.

M. Bellefeuille (BQ) asked if someone is picking someone up at the airport, should they also self-isolate. Dr. Njoo said if the traveller does not have symptoms, which they should not, there should not be a concern.

Paul Manly (GP) asked why certain people who present with symptoms are not being tested. Dr. Njoo explained that they have background questions for testing that there presently is not a community spread yet. He then asked are we closing the US border.

Elizabeth May (GP) thanked Public Health for their work. She asked if there will be other OGD calls on this subject? She asked is Public Health prepared to say where we will be in 30 days? Are we sure we have all the supplies we need? And she asked about the US situation, the explosion of numbers, are we concerned that Americans will cross the border to seek help in Canadian hospitals.

The next call is expected to be tomorrow at 4:30 p.m.

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