
SUBJECT /SUJET

PAYMENTS TO SUPPORT CANADA'S INITIAL RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PURSUANT TO THE *PUBLIC HEALTH EVENTS OF NATIONAL CONCERN PAYMENTS ACT* - TABLING OF THE 2020–21 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (A)

ISSUE

Why is the Public Health Agency of Canada requesting \$177.1 million to support Canada's initial response to COVID-19 pursuant to the Public Health Events of National Concern Payments Act in the 2020-21 Supplementary Estimates (A)?

RESPONSE / RÉPONSE

- **COVID-19 is a rapidly evolving global challenge. The Government of Canada is working closely with local, provincial, territorial, and international partners to minimize its health, economic and social impacts in Canada and around the world.**
 - **On March 11, the Prime Minister outlined Canada's whole-of-government response to COVID-19, by establishing a more than \$1 billion COVID-19 Response Fund. This comprehensive approach includes measures already underway to respond to the outbreak, as well as new investments to limit the spread of the virus in Canada and prepare for its possible broader impacts on our people.**
 - **This funding supports:**
 - **COVID-19 communication and public education efforts to help Canadians make informed decisions and take action to protect their health and their communities;**
 - **Immediate public health response; and**
 - **Acquisition of adequate supplies of personal protective equipment or PPE for provinces and territories.**
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- **La COVID-19 est un enjeu mondial qui évolue rapidement, et le gouvernement du Canada collabore étroitement avec ses partenaires locaux, provinciaux, territoriaux et internationaux afin d'en réduire au minimum les répercussions sanitaires, économiques et sociales au Canada et dans le monde.**
 - **Le 11 mars, lorsqu'il a annoncé la création d'un fonds de réponse à la COVID-19 de plus d'un milliard de dollars, le premier ministre a donné un aperçu de l'intervention pangouvernementale. L'approche exhaustive inclut des mesures déjà en place à la suite de l'éclosion, ainsi que de nouveaux investissements qui permettront de limiter la propagation du virus au Canada et de se préparer à d'éventuelles conséquences plus larges pour nos citoyens.**
 - **Le fonds est consacré aux mesures suivantes :**

- les efforts de communication et d'éducation du public au sujet de la COVID-19, qui aideront les Canadiens à prendre des décisions éclairées, ainsi que des mesures de protection de leur santé et de leur communauté;
- l'intervention immédiate en matière de santé publique;
- l'acquisition de stocks suffisants d'équipement de protection individuelle (EPI) à l'intention des provinces et des territoires.

KEY FACTS

- PHAC and Health Canada are providing support and national leadership to Canada's domestic response to the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Federal, provincial and territorial stockpiles need to be regularly and urgently replenished to meet the growing demands of the COVID-19 pandemic on health system.
- Effective March 25, 2020, all travellers returning to Canada are required under the *Quarantine Act* to self-isolate for 14 days.

BACKGROUND

- PHAC has requested \$50M to create and deliver a national public awareness and education campaign to educate Canadians on risk and health effects of COVID 19 infection and steps each Canadian can take to protect themselves, their loved ones and their communities.
- PHAC has requested \$50M for PPE and necessary medical equipment and supplies and is exercising its role as the bulk purchaser on behalf of the federal government and P/Ts. Key anticipated purchases are gloves, face masks and respirators used to protect medical personnel and front-line workers; thermometers for taking temperature, ventilators for helping people experiencing breathing problems to receive oxygen, and testing kits and swabs required in order to confirm a COVID-19 diagnosis. These priorities are subject to change as the situation continues to evolve and as opportunities and availabilities of health, assets for purchase arise.
- PHAC requested \$12.5M in 2020-21 for border, travel and quarantine measures including: increased frontline presence, Central Notification System capacity, and supporting functions to ensure ongoing screening and engagement of travellers; provision of travel health advice; and increased capacity for border and travel health related policy, regulatory, and legislative analysis.
- PHAC requested \$15.8M in 2020-21 for enhanced surveillance and risk assessment including surge capacity to support infection prevention and control as well as specialized public health expertise; studies to understand household transmission; enhanced data analytics and infrastructure and rapid research to provide national evidence on COVID-19.
- PHAC requested \$24.6M in 2020-21 for laboratory capacity, readiness and response to develop scientific expertise and capacity required to detect, investigate, plan for and respond to the threats posed by COVID-19
- PHAC also requested \$24.2M to support sustaining operations and coordination during response phase of COVID-19, including emergency management, governance and

coordination and shared corporate and internal services. in the areas of real property, security and IM/IT to ensure that key emergency management operations, such as the Health Portfolio Operations Centre (HPOC), and other activities are supported.

Financial Details

(In dollars)	2020-21 Supps (A)	2021- 22 ARLU	2022- 23 ARLU	2023- 24 ARLU	2024-25 and ongoing
<i>PHAC's Statutory Vote</i>	177,068,800				
<i>Public Services and Procurement Canada</i>	2,133,692				
<i>Shared Service Canada</i>	797,508				
TOTAL	180,000,000	0	0	0	0

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