

## McKenna, Neil

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**From:** Stickney, Matt  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 11, 2020 6:43 PM  
**To:** Travers, Patrick; Broadhurst, Jeremy; Clow, Brian  
**Cc:** Theis, Rick; Saini, Sabina (HC/SC); Church, Leslie (SPAC/PSPC); Zimmerman, Shannon; Garneau, Vincent; Telford, Katie  
**Subject:** URGENT - Medical Swabs

Hi Team,

Just off our nightly procurement with a flag on swabs. We will be at a crisis point in MB, AB and QC by Tuesday because of a shortage and the contaminated order that recently arrived from China (you heard about it in TStar yesterday) sets us back.

PHAC/Health are looking at multiple options of procuring through traditional means, making them in Canada and 3D printing but we are concerned that they won't fill this gap.

After talking to Patrick, we think that making an ask to an ally at this time may help us bridge the gap. There are four countries we suggest reaching out to see if they can help us ASAP. I note that swabs are in high demand, but not in the same category as masks, gloves, ventilators, etc. So help is a possibility. They are:

- 1) USA – they manufacture them in the country, could get them very quickly
- 2) Germany – one of the highest testing rates per capita and strong relationship via FPC
- 3) S. Korea – high testing rates, may produce, it's unclear
- 4) UAE – Also high testing rates, but may not have the amount we need

We think a reasonable number to ask for is 250k.

Do we want to jump on a call tonight? If not, are folks generally okay with pursuing?

Division of labour could go:

USA – DPMO  
Germany – Patrick to FPC's office  
Korea – Patrick via FPC's office  
UAE - ?

Let me know your thoughts.

Matt

**Matt Stickney**

Executive Director of Operations | Directeur général des opérations  
Office of the Prime Minister | Cabinet du Premier Ministre

M: 613-769-7797

E: Matt.Stickney@pmo-cpm.gc.ca