

Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

From: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Sent: October 20, 2020 5:23 PM
To: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC); fitz-morris, James (SPAC/PSPC)
Cc: Elizabeth Lindsay; James Stott; Jean-François Létourneau; Media; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Rachel Lagacé; Renee Harden; Sara Lacasse; Vivianne Soubhie
Subject: REVISED - For MO Approval / Media Response - Tier 1 - PPE suppliers and contracts / The Globe and Mail

Hi Cecely,

Your changes have been revised. Here is what we are proposing.

Given the urgency of COVID-19 related procurements, Public Services and Procurement Canada, at the request of the Public Health Agency of Canada, invoked the national security exception (NSE), which allowed the federal government to move as quickly as possible to secure the PPE and essential supplies needed to protect the health and safety of Canadians. ~~as rapidly as possible through non-competitive procurements.~~

Can we consider this approved and send to the reporter?

Thanks,

Marc
873-354-7219

From: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC) [<mailto:cecely.roy@canada.ca>]
Sent: October 20, 2020 4:30 PM
To: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Cc: James Fitzmorris <james.fitz-morris@canada.ca>; Jean-François Létourneau <Jean-Francois.Letourneau@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger <MeShel.GulliverBelanger@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Elizabeth Lindsay <Elizabeth.Lindsay@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Bryan Blom <Bryan.Blom@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Subject: Re: For MO Approval / Media Response - Tier 1 - PPE suppliers and contracts / The Globe and Mail

Please see revised response below.

Cecely Roy

Press Secretary | Attachée de presse

Office of Minister Anita Anand | Bureau de la ministre Anita Anand

C : 343-549-7293

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**Media response
The Globe and Mail**

Walsh, Marieke (The Globe and Mail)

Tier 1 - PPE suppliers and contracts

**QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES
(for approval):**

Q1. Under the summary of aggregate procurements it says current as of July 16, 2020. Does that mean that all of the tables below are also current as of that date? I don't see a date with each of the subsequent tables.

A1. Yes, the data reflected in all of the tables is current as of July 16, 2020. Consistent with our commitment to transparency and disclosure of contracts on a quarterly basis, an update of the web table is anticipated this fall.

Q2. Are the amounts posted the spending to date or the total value of the contracts signed?

A2. Yes, the amounts posted reflect the value of the contracts signed.

Total contract values are not included in situations where the government has previously disclosed quantities of units ordered in a given contract. For example, if the government previously announced the purchase of 10,000 gowns from a company, the total value of that contract would not be released as doing so may allow the unit price to be determined. These values are denoted with the word "protected." In certain instances, contract values are amalgamated to protect commercial confidences.

We have secured more than 2 billion articles of various personal protective equipment, and we continue to receive steady, ongoing deliveries, which will continue into the coming months. We are also continuing to leverage domestic supply chains wherever possible, with more than 40 percent of the total value of PPE contracts going to domestic companies.

Q3. Can you please still clarify which of these contracts were sole-sourced? Or if you can't provide that for each contract can you please tell me the total dollar value of sole-sourced contracts as well as the total number of sole sourced contracts?

Q4. Additionally, can you tell me if all of the new contracts are being awarded through an open tender?

A3 & 4. At the outset of the pandemic, the Government of Canada took an aggressive, procurement approach to fulfill emergent and immediate as well as long-term medical supply requirements. This included buying in bulk from distributors in Canada and internationally to secure key items like personal protective equipment and testing supplies, for which there is a surge in global demand. As part of this aggressive procurement approach, a proactive Call Out to suppliers was launched on Buyandsell to engage new suppliers and expand the diversity of suppliers engaged in pandemic related purchases.

Given the urgency of COVID-19 related procurements, Public Services and Procurement Canada, at the request of the Public Health Agency of Canada, invoked the national security exception (NSE), which allowed the federal government to secure the PPE and essential supplies needed to protect the health and safety of Canadians as rapidly

as possible through non-competitive procurements.

From the contract information on COVID-19 related procurements published on PSPC's website (<https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/comm/aic-scr/contrats-contracts-eng.html>), as of July 16, 2020 a total of 299 contracts were sourced non-competitively representing a total value of approximately \$5.93B.

The federal government has returned to the use of competitive bidding processes to secure the goods and services required to meet Canada's evolving needs in response to COVID-19, where circumstances permit and the needs are not emergent, therefore permitting the longer timeline.

Open competitions for goods and services required in response to COVID-19 have been run over the past months and continue to be launched on [Buyandsell.gc.ca](https://buyandsell.gc.ca) for a range of personal protective equipment items, medical supplies and goods like cloth masks required to equip essential workers, and a long-term Canadian logistics solution to meet the increased warehousing and distribution needs of the National Emergency Strategic Stockpile.