

## Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

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**From:** Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** April 25, 2020 4:27 PM  
**To:** Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC)  
**Cc:** Harris, Emily (SPAC/PSPC); Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Bryan Blom; Jean-François Létourneau; Media  
**Subject:** RE: For MO Approval: Media response Heads-Up / Tier 1 - Follow-up - COVID-19 - Unusable masks from China / The Globe and Mail

Hi Cecely,

Bryan has verified and confirmed nothing was distributed.

We will go ahead and send the response.

Merci ☺  
Marc

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**From:** Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC) [mailto:cecely.roy@canada.ca]  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 25, 2020 3:09 PM  
**To:** Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Emily Harris <Emily.Harris@canada.ca>; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger <MeShel.GulliverBelanger@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Bryan Blom <Bryan.Blom@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: For MO Approval: Media response Heads-Up / Tier 1 - Follow-up - COVID-19 - Unusable masks from China / The Globe and Mail

See the revised response below with changes in red. If we can confirm that the change re: distribution to PTs is accurate before sending that would be much appreciated.

Thanks,

**Cecely Roy**

*Press Secretary | Attachée de presse*

*Office of the Minister of Public Services and Procurement | Bureau de la ministre des Services publics et de l'Approvisionnement*

*(343) 549-7293*

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We can confirm that the masks in question came from a single supplier and that they were not distributed to provinces and territories. ~~for use in healthcare settings.~~

In order to protect the integrity of our procurement processes, as well as the integrity of global supply chains **as we respond to the COVID-19 crisis**, we need to exercise caution at this time with information we are

providing publicly, and so are not in a position to provide the name of the supplier. ~~so as not to jeopardize any of our orders.~~

On Apr 25, 2020, at 9:04 AM, Media <[media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)> wrote:

Good morning Emily and Cecely,,

For MO approval, please. New info.

Thanks,

Marc

873-354-7219

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#### **Media response**

**The Globe and Mail**

**Chase, Steven (The Globe and Mail)**

**Date call received: April-24-20 at 12:08**

**Deadline: April-24-20 at 16:00**

Tier 1 - Follow-up - COVID-19 - Unusable masks from China

#### **CONTEXT (for your information):**

The reporter is following up on his story about 1 million masks from China that failed to meet standards and could not be sent out to provinces, and financial actions that could be taken by the government.

Reference : <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-canada-says-one-million-face-masks-from-china-failed-to-meet-proper/>

#### **VALUE STATEMENT:**

#### **QUESTIONS / RESPONSES:**

**Q1. Can you identify the names of the companies that provided the KN95 masks that were found not to meet specifications?**

**Q2. So what I understand you are telling me is the supplier or suppliers have pledged to send you new masks to replace the approximately 1 million masks that did not meet KN95 standards. That is what I understand from your response.**

**Also you use supplier (singular) rather than suppliers (plural).**

**Does that mean all these substandard masks came from one supplier?**

**Could you identify the supplier for us?**

We can confirm that the masks in question came from a single supplier and that they were not distributed to provinces and territories for use in health care settings. In order to protect the integrity of our procurement processes, as well as the integrity of global supply chains, we need to exercise caution at this time with information we are providing, so as not to jeopardize any of our orders.

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Sent to the reporter on April 24, at 11:15

**Q1. Is the Canadian government trying to get a refund for these substandard masks?**

**Q2. Are they making any effort to get their money back?**

**Q3. Could you identify the suppliers who sold Canada the masks?**

We are working closely with our suppliers to get safe, effective equipment and supplies into the hands of front-line healthcare workers.

This is a shared priority and our partners are making adjustments to ensure Canada's needs are being met. In this particular situation, we can confirm our supplier will replace masks that do not meet specifications at no cost to Canada, unless there is a need for their non-medical use.