

Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

From: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Sent: April 1, 2020 1:36 PM
To: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC); Harris, Emily (SPAC/PSPC)
Cc: Media; Jean-François Létourneau; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Bryan Blom; Elizabeth Lindsay; James Stott
Subject: For MO approval - Media response - Tier 1 / COVID-19 - Procurement of personal protective equipment / CBC News (Toronto)

Emily, Cecely,

For your approval please. This is the same response as the one for La Presse.

The reporter followed up this morning and intended to file. ISED provided their response to Q2.

Merci

Michèle

Media response

CBC News (Toronto)

Anderson, Scott (CBC News (Toronto))

Date call received: March-31-20 at 13:50

Deadline: March-31-20 at 16:00

Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Procurement of personal protective equipment

CONTEXT (for your information):

The producer is preparing a story on the government's announcement today regarding PPE procurement for healthcare providers. The producer is on a tight deadline and would appreciate a response this afternoon.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Q1. Why has the Canadian government stepped in to bulk buy PPE at this time?

Q2. Was 3M Canada approached to retool one of their Canadian factories to produce N95 masks? If yes what was their response? (From to ISED).

The Government of Canada will support businesses as they rapidly scale up production or re-tool their manufacturing lines to develop products made in Canada that will help in the fight against COVID-19. These products include critical health and safety supplies and equipment, including personal protective equipment, sanitization products, diagnostic and testing products, and disease tracking technology.

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada has spoken with over 3000 companies from across the country that have offered to contribute to meeting the immediate demands for PPEs and critical health supplies, including re-tooling and reorienting their manufacturing operations.

3M has a long history of manufacturing and doing business in Canada. They have been and continue to be an important supplier of PPE to Canadian health care workers, particularly in this pandemic.

Q3. Of the 60.9 N95 masks the Minister said today are on order how many will be produced domestically?

Q4. Can you provide a specific breakdown of who is producing all 60.9 million masks?

Q5. When will masks be delivered?

Q6. What companies have specifically donated N95 masks to bridge the demand? How many have been donated to date? (Trying to refer to HC/PHAC.)

Q7. Can you provide more details on the agreement with Medicom? Are they being provided a grant to retool? How much? What are the details of the contract with Medicom?

Answers 1, 3, 4, 5, and 7

The Government is taking an aggressive, proactive procurement approach to fulfill immediate and future requirements. This includes buying in bulk from reputable distributors, to secure key items like masks and ventilators, which are in high global demand.

The COVID-19 situation is very fluid and evolving rapidly every day, as are our requirements and orders. We are placing as many orders as possible with suppliers who have the capacity to meet our needs—now and into the future. We are exploring all opportunities to secure available supply, including large and small quantities. We are aggressively ordering in the marketplace, recognizing the risks posed by fragile supply chains.

As a result of our [call-out](#) and through engagement with our supplier network, we have already purchased a broad range of personal protective equipment and supplies, including swabs, tests kits, gloves, masks and gowns. While delivery timelines vary, some deliveries began in mid-March.

We can confirm that, to date, we have placed orders for more than 1,500 ventilators, more than 157 million surgical masks and more than 60 million N-95 respirators. Deliveries of many goods started last week and will continue on an ongoing basis.

We continue to work with all available suppliers who have the capacity to respond to Canada's needs. In addition, we are continuously working with the Public Health Agency of Canada to determine their technical specifications and requirements, as well as those for provinces and territories.

Through the [Plan to Mobilize Industry to fight COVID-19](#), the Government is also introducing new measures to directly support businesses to rapidly scale up production or re-tool their manufacturing lines to develop products made in Canada that will help in the fight against COVID-19.