

## **Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)**

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**From:** Laycock, Tristan (SPAC/PSPC)  
**Sent:** April 28, 2020 9:42 AM  
**To:** Anand, Anita - Personal; Anand, Anita (SPAC/PSPC)  
**Cc:** Church, Leslie (SPAC/PSPC); Harris, Emily (SPAC/PSPC); Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC); Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC); Kusnick, Chelsea (SPAC/PSPC); Mullan-Boudreau, Caitlin (SPAC/PSPC); Gerasimov, Boyan (SPAC/PSPC); Fitzmorris, James (AADNC/AANDC)  
**Subject:** Daily Issues Summary - April 28, 2020

Good morning Minister,

Here's your daily issue summary:

### **PSPC MEDIA**

#### **Continued lack of PPE and testing, high sources of anxiety for physicians, new CMA poll says (Canadian Medical Association – NR) 2020-04-28**

- The whole-of-government is focused on responding to the COVID-19 outbreak, and working with partners at all levels of government, and with industry, to secure life-saving medical supplies.
- We are aggressively procuring in the global marketplace to secure the life-saving equipment and supplies that Canada needs, while at the same time directly supporting Canadian industry to scale-up and re-tool to build domestic capacity.
- We are doing everything that we can in a challenging international context, but we are also increasingly seeing sources of domestic supply come online and we are working with Canadian manufacturers to get these supplies to frontline personnel as quickly as possible.

#### **Feds burn through \$500M to restore equipment stockpile (WINNIPEG SUN) 2020-04-28**

- We are operating in a global environment marked by extremely high demand and competition for medical supplies.
- This has meant increased costs as we source the life-saving equipment that our frontline health workers need to stay safe, and keep Canadians safe too.
- We are partnering with Canadian industry to rapidly scale up and re-tool production capacity, ensuring a reliable domestic supply to serve our needs for the short and long terms.
- We are increasingly seeing sources of domestic supply come online and we are working with Canadian manufacturers to purchase significant quantities of these made-in-Canada supplies.

#### **What happens if we're afraid to go back to work? (Kelly Egan, OTTAWA SUN) 2020-04-28**

- While social-distancing and telework provisions are reducing general occupancy rates in our buildings at this time, we recognize that, in the future, occupancy levels will begin to increase.
- We continue to work with the Treasury Board Secretariat and Health Canada to establish guidance for departments in terms of staged return to offices combined with telework, as well as to determine appropriate cleaning and maintenance protocols for our buildings during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Should additional measures be recommended, PSPC is ready to implement them.
- Effective return to work strategies will likely include balancing office work with teleworking, improving network infrastructure and bandwidth, and providing employees with access to mobility tools such as laptops, mobile phones and virtual collaboration platforms to ensure continued program delivery

### **PMO ISSUES CALL:**

- Fina: How Ottawa's response plan came together so quickly
- Fina: Banks will be getting revenue through CEBA loan processing
- Employment: Ivison - Should we be moving people off CERB
- Employment: CERB making it difficult for employers to get workers back on the job
- GHL: Virtual sittings potentially vulnerable to cyber-attack
- Seniors: questions on introducing financial support for seniors
- Health: Testing and contact tracing key to easing restrictions
- Health: HC not requiring bilingual labels
- Health/PSPC: Doctors worried about lack of PPE (CMA Report)
- PSPC: Cost of PPE

## **LIBERAL RESEARCH BUREAU**

- Today marks the National Day of Mourning, a day to remember and honour Canadians who have been lost or injured due to a workplace tragedy, and collectively renew our commitment to improve health and safety in the workplace. We know that with each tragedy there are loved ones, family members, friends, and co-workers who are deeply impacted. We will continue to work to better protect workers, their health, and their families.
  - Please stay tuned to the Prime Minister's [social media](#) for his statement on National Day of Mourning.
  - Find National Day of Mourning shareables on [InfoLib](#).
- Yesterday, the Prime Minister gave his update on Canada's response to COVID-19 and announced that Canadian business owners can now apply for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy that will cover 75% of an employee's wages. The first payments are expected to go out as soon as May 7th. The Prime Minister also highlighted that our government is working with provinces and territories to support healthcare workers and develop a framework to safely reopen the economy.
  - Please find a [news release](#) and [backgrounder](#) on the launching of applications for the CEWS.
  - Share the Prime Minister's [post](#) on the launch of the CEWS on your social media channels.
  - Find CEWS shareables on [InfoLib](#) and share this [link](#) where Canadian business owners can apply.

## **Key Messages:**

### **Economic Impact and Response**

#### **Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy**

##### **Lead: Finance/ Small Business**

- Canadians should be confident that their jobs are safe as we continue to fight the global COVID-19 outbreak.
- That's why our Government passed the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy to support businesses that are hardest hit by the pandemic, and protect the jobs Canadians depend on.
- The subsidy will cover 75 per cent of an employee's wages for employers of all sizes and across all sectors – including not-for-profits and charities .
- This significant support will help employers keep their staff on payroll, and rehire those previously laid off.
- Eligible employers are encouraged to sign up for direct deposit, and can apply starting today through their CRA My Business Account.

##### ***On Direct Deposit:***

- We are pleased to confirm that we have again partnered with financial institutions, and employers can now register business payroll accounts for direct deposit with the CRA through their bank portals. We encourage employers to visit [canada.ca/cra-direct-deposit](https://canada.ca/cra-direct-deposit) for more information.

- Employers can sign up for direct deposit with their financial institutions even after applying for the CEWS. We recommend that employers register by May 3 in order to receive their first CEWS payment through direct deposit.
- Employers who are not registered for direct deposit should allow additional time for their cheque to be mailed to the address on their payroll account (RP).

### Canada's Emergency Response Plan

#### Lead: Finance

- In these extraordinary times, no Canadian should have to worry about paying their bills, rent, or putting food on the table.
- Our Government is unwavering in our commitment to support Canadians, our healthcare system, and our economy.
- Through Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan, we are focused on providing immediate help to those Canadians and businesses that are most in need.
  - With the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, we're protecting jobs.
  - With the Canada Emergency Response Benefit, we're helping those who lose their job.
  - And with easy, guaranteed loans for businesses of all sizes, we're helping people access credit.
- This wide-ranging support will help ensure Canadians can pay for rent and groceries, and help businesses continue to pay their employees and their bills during this time of uncertainty.
- This is just the beginning, and our Government will be there with Canadians every step of the way. We will do whatever it takes.

### Canada Emergency Response Benefit

#### Lead: Employment

- Protecting the health and safety of Canadians, jobs, and our economy, is our top priority.
- No one should have to worry about paying the bills during this time.
- We recognize the urgency of the situation and that's why our government has taken action to support workers and their families with the Canada Emergency Response Benefit.
- Nearly 6 million Canadians are either self-employed or do not have enough hours of work to qualify for EI benefits.
- This benefit will mean that workers, including the self-employed, who are unable to work because of COVID-19 have the income support they need.
- As of April 6th, a single landing page is available to assist Canadians with the application process – [Canada.ca/coronavirus-cerb](https://Canada.ca/coronavirus-cerb)
- We recognize that the CERB might not address all the various work situations Canadians have right now and we continue to look at ways to support all Canadians during this difficult time.
- Our priority remains to make sure all Canadians have the support they need and we will continue working with our partners across the country to do so.

### Canada Emergency Response Benefit Eligibility

#### Lead: Employment

- No Canadian should have to choose between protecting their health, putting food on the table, paying for their medication or caring for a family member.
- We are stepping up to better support those who need help but don't qualify for the CERB, and Canadians working in essential jobs.
- To help more Canadians benefit from the CERB, the Government will be changing the eligibility rules to:
  - Allow people to earn up to \$1,000 per month while collecting the CERB.
  - Extend the CERB to seasonal workers who have exhausted their EI regular benefits and are unable to undertake their usual seasonal work as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.
  - Extend the CERB to workers who recently exhausted their EI benefits and are unable to find a job or return to work because of COVID-19.
- We are also working with provinces and territories to help provide a temporary top-up to the salaries of workers deemed essential in the fight against COVID-19, that make less than \$2,500 a month.

- The top-up is in recognition that these essential workers' salaries are often less or similar than what they would receive from the CERB.
- We will continue to look for ways to better help all Canadians during this difficult time.

### Students

#### Lead: Employment

- As Canadians take action in the fight against COVID-19, we recognize that many young Canadians are facing an unprecedented challenge.
- Whether you've recently graduated and were looking forward to starting your career, or you're still in school and counting on summer employment to pay tuition, or pursuing a national service opportunity – our Government has your back.
- We are ensuring that Canadian students have the help they need to continue their studies, and that young Canadians can get the experience they need to start their careers.
- With the new Canada Emergency Student Benefit, we're getting help to students and recent graduates not covered by CERB.
- With the new Canada Student Service Grant, we're helping students gain valuable work experience and serve their communities through national service.
- And by supporting the financial needs of students, we're ensuring they can confidently pay for tuition in the fall.
- These significant new supports will help young Canadians get through this crisis and play a central role in ensuring Canada emerges from these challenges stronger than ever.

### Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB)

#### Lead: Employment

- Our Government recognizes that many young Canadians were counting on summer jobs or new careers in order to make ends meet.
- Through the new Canada Student Emergency Benefit (CESB), our Government will ensure that students have the support they need in the face of COVID-19 – even if they are not covered by the CERB.
- This benefit would provide \$1,250 per month from May through August for eligible students, and \$1,750 for students with dependents or permanent disabilities.
- Together with other supports for young Canadians, our Government is doing whatever it takes to help Canadians through these challenging times.

*Please refer to the Prime Minister's [news release](#) and the Department of Finance's [backgrounder](#) for additional information.*

### Canada Student Service Grant (CSSG)

#### Lead: Employment

- Young Canadians will play a central role in ensuring that Canada emerges from COVID-19 stronger than ever.
- Our Government will help young people gain valuable work experience – even in the face of COVID-19 – by introducing the new Canada Student Service Grant (CSSG).
- This grant will provide up to \$5,000 for a student's education in the fall, for students who work in national service positions through organizations within their community.
- Through the CSSG, our Government will help students develop their skills and give back to their communities during these challenging times.

### Canada Service Corps

#### Lead: DIY

- Canada's youth have concerns about financial security, work experience and employment prospects, and personal and community well-being.
- The Canada Service Corps connects youth with opportunities to serve their communities. We are expanding the number of micro-grants available from 1,800 to 15,000 for people aged 15 to 30.

- These micro-grants provide youth the opportunity to design and lead service projects that respond to unique needs in their communities in the context of COVID-19.

#### Tuition Support

##### Lead: Employment

- No young Canadian should have to choose between taking action against COVID-19 and their education.
- In order to ensure that post-secondary students are confidently able to continue their studies in the fall, our Government is proposing significant measures to support their financial needs, including:
  - Doubling the Canada Students Grants Program
  - Broadening the eligibility for Student Financial Assistance
  - Enhancing the Canada Student Loans Program
  - Increasing support for Indigenous Post-Secondary Education
  - And extending expiring federal graduate research scholarships and postdoctoral fellowships as well as federal research grants.
- Together with the Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB) and the Canada Student Service Grant (CSSG), our Government will ensure that young Canadians have the support they need to get through this crisis and help Canada come out stronger than ever before.

#### Wage Top Up for Essential and Frontline Workers

##### Lead: Employment

- As Canadians take unprecedented action in the fight against COVID-19, workers on the frontline and in essential services are stepping up to serve their communities.
- The pandemic has put a tremendous burden on these workers, who are saving lives, ensuring the safety and integrity of our food supply, and providing essential retail services.
- Our Government will ensure that they are properly compensated for their efforts.
- Through a new transfer with the provinces and territories, we will provide a temporary top-up to the salaries of the millions of low-income workers deemed essential in the fight against COVID-19.
- Further details will be announced soon, following further work with the provinces and territories.

#### Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA)

##### Lead: Finance/ Small Business

- We know that many small businesses are worried about paying the rent, paying suppliers, and keeping people employed.
- Last week, we launched the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA), which is offering interest-free, partially forgivable loans of up to \$40,000.
  - To date, more than 195,000 loans have been approved.
- To support even more small businesses, we are expanding the eligibility requirements of CEBA to allow businesses with between \$20,000 and \$1.5 million in annual payroll to apply.
- Our Government is taking decisive action to keep our businesses strong, so that when this is over they can continue to create jobs, and support their communities.

#### Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA)

##### Lead: Finance

- As Canadians take action in the fight against COVID-19, we know that many small businesses are worried about being able to pay rent.
- In recognition of the challenges facing Canadian businesses and property owners, our Government has reached an agreement with all provinces and territories to implement the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) for small business
- Delivered by CMHC in partnership with all provinces and territories, this program will provide forgivable loans to commercial property owners who in turn lower the rent of their tenants by 75%.
- These loans will cover up to 50% of tenants' monthly rent, and will be forgiven at the end of the program.
- We expect that CECRA will be operational by mid-May, but funding will be provided for the months of April and May, retroactively, as well as for June.

- Eligible small businesses will be defined as those with less than \$50,000 per month in rent and who have temporarily ceased operations or have experienced at least a 70 per cent drop in pre-COVID-19 revenues. This support will also be available to non-profit and charitable organizations.
- Further details will be shared by CMHC in the near future.

### Support for the Energy Sector

Lead: NRCAN

- Canada's energy sector, which provides more than 170,000 good, well-paying jobs across the country, is dealing with unprecedented challenges due to COVID-19, and a global surge in crude oil supply.
- To support the hard working men and women in our energy sector, our Government is taking targeted action to create and protect approximately 10,000 jobs, while also moving us closer to our environmental targets.
- We will:
  - Provide up to \$1.72 billion to clean up orphan and inactive oil and gas wells;
  - Provide up to \$750 million to create a new Emissions Reduction Fund;
  - And expand eligibility for the new BCAP program to help medium-sized businesses including those in the energy sector.
- These actions will help keep Canadians working, and support the sector through these significant challenges.

### Canada Summer Jobs

Lead: Employment

- Right now, young people are facing serious challenges finding work.
- To build the foundations of strong communities, we need a strong workforce that includes good job opportunities for youth.
- That's why we are changing the Canada Summer Jobs program this year to help employers adapt to the realities of COVID-19, and support young Canadians as they begin to look for summer employment.
- The temporary changes to the program for this year include:
  - an increase to the wage subsidy, so that private and public sector employers can also receive up to 100% of the provincial or territorial minimum hourly wage for each employee
  - an extension to the end date for employment to February 28, 2021,
  - allowing employers to adapt their projects and job activities to support essential services
  - allowing employers to hire staff on a part-time basis.
- Canada's small businesses increasingly depend on the employment of young Canadians. The changes to the Canada Summer Jobs program will help small businesses hire and keep the workers they need so they can continue to deliver essential services.
- The Canada Summer Jobs program provides opportunities for youth to develop and improve their skills within the not-for-profit, small business, and public sectors, and supports the delivery of key community services.
- This program will help create up to 70,000 jobs for youth between 15 and 30 years of age.

### Support for Business

Lead: Finance/ Small Business

- Our Government is taking immediate and decisive action to help Canadians and businesses through this challenging time.
- As a next step in our COVID-19 Economic Response Plan, our Government is helping Canadian businesses protect jobs, and pay their bills by:
  - Providing an up to 75% wage subsidy for qualifying employers for up to 3 months;
  - Allowing businesses to defer GST/HST payments, and customs duties until the end of June;
  - Launching the new Canada Emergency Business Account to help provide interest-free loans to small businesses and not-for-profits
  - And providing SMEs with guaranteed loans to help cover operational costs.
- These new measures will provide immediate help to Canadian businesses so that they can weather the impacts of COVID-19.

- This builds on our work so far to expand work sharing, launch the Business Credit Availability Program, and stabilize our financial markets.
- Our Government will continue to do whatever necessary to support workers, businesses, and our economy as we deal with the COVID-19 pandemic.

### GST/HST & Duty Deferral

Lead: Finance

- We know that small businesses are facing significant challenges due to a sudden reduction in sales.
- That's why we are providing immediate assistance by deferring any payments on GST/HST and customs duties over the next three months.
- For over 3.2 million businesses and self-employed Canadians, this measure will help provide them with the cash to continue operating.
- The deferral of these payments will provide for up to \$30B in interest-free loans as we deal with this unprecedented challenge.

### Loan Guarantee and Co-Lending Program

Lead: Small Business

- Our Government recognizes that small and medium-sized businesses are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of COVID-19.
- To support their operations, we are launching two new programs which will help provide cash flow during this challenging time.
- EDC will guarantee new operating and cash flow term loans that financial institutions extend to SMEs, providing up to \$6.25M.
- BDC, together with financial institutions, will provide additional liquidity to businesses through a new Co-Lending Program providing up to \$6.25M.
- These new programs are part of our ongoing work to help businesses keep their employees, pay the bills, and weather the COVID-19 pandemic.

### CMHC IMPP

Lead: Finance

- Uncertainty around the spread of COVID-19 have created volatility in the markets, and we recognize that Canadians are anxious about the possible economic impacts.
- At the same time, Canada has one of the strongest and most resilient banking sectors in the world.
- The Minister of Finance, Governor of the Bank of Canada, and the Superintendent of Financial Institutions coordinated to take unprecedented action and support the Canadian economy.
- This includes launching an Insured Mortgage Purchase Program, in which CMHC will purchase up to \$150B of insured mortgage pools.
- This will provide long-term stable funding to banks and mortgage lenders, help facilitate continued lending to Canadian consumers, and add liquidity to Canada's mortgage market.

### Regional Support

Lead: Small Business

- Our Government recognizes that businesses in different parts of the country may face unique realities and challenges in the face of COVID-19.
- As a result, many businesses may be unable to access our Government's existing emergency support programs.
- In order to give equivalent financing support to these small and medium-sized businesses, our Government is investing \$675M in Canada's Regional Development Agencies.
- At the same time, we will ensure that rural businesses and communities have access to much-needed capital by investing \$287M in the Community Futures Network to support small businesses in rural communities.
- This new financing will help support the businesses that will help keep our communities strong through this crisis.

### New Horizons for Seniors Program

#### **Lead: Seniors**

- Seniors who are staying safe by isolating at home may need help to get supplies and stay connected.
- The New Horizons for Seniors Program now allows previously approved projects to be modified to meet seniors' needs during this public health crisis.
- Recipients can now use funds previously received to deliver services to seniors impacted by COVID-19, such as providing electronic devices to help them stay connected or supporting the delivery of food and medication. In addition, organizations now have up to two years to finish their original projects.
- Canadians are coming together to protect our most vulnerable by helping their neighbours with groceries, calling their parents and grandparents and doing their part to flatten the curve by physical distancing. We can and will get through this difficult period together.

#### **Vulnerable Canadians**

##### **Lead: Families**

- We have taken steps to ensure that organizations that support people living in homelessness have all the tools they need to prepare, prevent and manage this disease.
- To this end we have made available \$157.5 million for these organizations to directly assist them in responding to COVID-19.
- We will also invest \$50 million to women's shelters and sexual assault centres to help with their capacity to manage or prevent an outbreak in their facilities. This includes funding for facilities in Indigenous communities.

#### **Indigenous Business Support**

##### **Lead: Finance/ ISC**

- Indigenous businesses provide jobs, goods, and services to communities, and are an important part of the Canadian economy.
- Right now, they are facing challenges and economic hardships due to COVID-19.
- That is why we are providing up to \$306.8 million in cash funding to help Indigenous businesses and ensure business owners have access to the support they need to get through this crisis.
- It is estimated that 6,000 Indigenous-owned businesses will benefit from this funding.
- We will continue to take action to protect the health and safety of Canadians and stabilize our economy.

#### **Travel, Canadian Borders, Trade and the International Community**

##### **Temporary Foreign Worker Isolation Support**

##### **Lead: Agriculture**

- Our Government is committed to ensuring Canadians continue to have access to high quality and affordable food in our stores and on our tables.
- Temporary Foreign Workers are an important part of our agricultural supply chain from planting and harvesting of crops – particularly for fruits and vegetables, but also fish, meat and seafood.
- Workers arriving in Canada must observe a mandatory 14 quarantine period. The rules have been clearly defined and distributed to employers who are committed to upholding those rules.
- This new federal subsidy provides employers with \$1,500 per worker to help cover the costs of meeting these regulations for as long as the Quarantine Act and the TFW isolation protocol are in effect.
- Governmental authorities will follow up regularly and any employer or worker who does not comply will be punished.

##### **Irregular Migration – Direct Backs**

##### **Lead: Public Safety**

- Canada is a welcoming country for those fleeing war and persecution, but during this pandemic we need to reduce the flow of international travellers in order to better protect Canadians.
- Our agreement with the United States extends our travel restrictions to irregular entryways, to discourage travel between countries, and is in line with our international commitments to asylum seekers.



- While we are still finalizing our agreement with the U.S., we have been provided assurances that migrants will not be removed to their country of origin, and will be able to return afterwards while their claims will continue to be processed here.
- This is one additional step that our government has taken to contain the spread of COVID-19 until this pandemic is over.

#### Repatriation

Lead: GAC

- To all Canadians abroad: We are working tirelessly to resolve this complex and unprecedented situation.
- We are prioritizing locations where there is currently a large number of Canadians, and a lack of local air service or local restrictions on travel.
- We continue to support Canadian airlines in their efforts.
- We continue to work around the clock to bring back Canadians and Minister Champagne remains in close contact with his counterparts.

### **Manufacturing and Services, Building Response Capacity, and Emergency Preparedness**

#### Reopening the Economy

Lead: Health

- It is going to be important to get our economy going, but we have to do it in phases.
- We are having ongoing discussions with the provinces and territories about what that looks like.
- Reopening our economy requires a coordinated approach, because different parts of the country are at different points in the fight against COVID-19.
- We know that there are significant risks to lifting our public health measures. We will continue to listen to the advice of experts, and will keep working with our provincial, territorial, and Indigenous partners every step of the way.

*If pressed on specific provinces:*

- I know that some provinces have released their own plans to reopen the economy.
- People are anxious to get back to work, and we understand that.
- What we need to remember is that this virus affects all Canadians. We need to coordinate our response so that no one is at risk and no one is left behind.
- There are significant risks to lifting public health measures too early or too quickly. If we are to avoid a second wave, we will need to work together to ensure the safety of all Canadians.

#### Immunity Passports

Lead: Health

- We don't know yet whether being infected with COVID-19 means that you are immune to it.
- These are important questions to understanding how we move forward, which is why on Thursday the Prime Minister announced a \$1.1B investment to fund Canadian research projects on COVID-19.
- This investment is funding research on treatments and vaccines, on immunity, and on large-scale data collection.
- We learn more about the virus every day. Each discovery brings us closer to a vaccine, and defeating this virus.

#### Increase in domestic violence during the pandemic

Lead: WAGE

- Our Government understands that even though we've asked Canadians to self-isolate and to stay home in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, not every home is safe.
- We're investing more \$50 million to support women's shelters and sexual assault centres, to ensure these organizations can continue being a lifeline for vulnerable women and girls.
- To those experiencing domestic violence and gender-based violence: speak to someone you trust and seek help. You are not alone.

- We're working with Women's Shelters Canada and the Canadian Women's Foundation to get this money out the door. It is already flowing to organizations across the country.

### Canadian Seafood Stabilization Fund

Lead: DFO

- The women and men in the fish and seafood sector are the driving economic force behind many coastal and rural communities, and they are facing unprecedented challenges due to the impact of COVID-19.
- That's why today, our Government is investing \$62.5M for the new Canadian Seafood Stabilization Fund, to help Canada's seafood sector adapt to these current challenges.
- These funds will help the industry as they:
  - increase their storage and freezing capacity in order to be able to buy and process more fish and seafood.
  - Retool their technologies and marketing efforts to meet the changes in consumer demand.
  - Put in place health and safety measures to minimize risk to workers.
- This will help stabilize the industry right now by:
  - Reducing wasted food
  - Supporting access to the retail space and increasing consumers, and;
  - Helping protect workers in the industry.
- These measures will provide immediate support and help secure the food chain to ensure the sector is well positioned to return at full strength when the pandemic is over.
- We know there is still more to do and we will continue to explore other ways to support harvesters and the industry as we move forward.

### FCM Support to Run Essential Services

Lead: DPMO

- Our absolute priority is the health and safety of Canadians.
- We know municipalities are on the frontlines of the fight against COVID-19, and we are working with the provinces to ensure that they have the resources they need to continue their hard work.
- The Prime Minister and the deputy prime minister are also in close contact with mayors from across Canada, including through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.
- We've received the FCM's request and are evaluating it.
- We are grateful for the leadership that all municipalities have been showing in this difficult time.

### Medical Research to Fight COVID-19

Lead: ISI

- Researchers and scientists in Canada and around the world are working hard to better understand the virus, and its impacts on people and communities. We need long-term solutions to the virus.
- That's why we are investing more than \$1 billion in support of a national medical and research strategy to address COVID-19, that includes vaccine development, the production of treatments, and the tracking and testing of the virus.
- This new funding builds on the previously announced \$275 million for coronavirus research and medical countermeasures.
- The strategy includes the establishment of the COVID-19 Immunity Task Force that will oversee the coordination of a series of countrywide blood test surveys, to tell us how widely the virus has spread in Canada, and provide reliable estimates of potential immunity and vulnerabilities in Canadian populations.
- By supporting COVID-19 research, we will be able to better protect the health and safety of Canadians and vulnerable populations around the world.

### Task Force

Lead: Health

- To understand how widespread the COVID-19 infection is in a population, it requires that we test large numbers of people of various ages in many parts of the country.

- That's why we've created the COVID-19 Immunity Task Force to oversee a series of countrywide blood test surveys that will tell us how widely the virus has spread in Canada.
- It will also provide reliable estimates of potential immunity and vulnerabilities in Canadian populations.
- The Task Force will operate under the direction of a leadership group, including Dr. David Naylor, Dr. Catherine Hankins, Dr. Tim Evans, Dr. Theresa Tam, and Dr. Mona Nemer.
- The task force will provide data to decision makers, including disaggregated data that will help us understand the impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable populations, while also leveraging new and existing lab capacity for research.
- The better we understand the virus, its spread, and its unique impact on different groups, the better we can fight it, and eventually defeat it.

#### Support for Charities

##### Lead: Families

- Canadians across the country are continuing to face challenges during this difficult time, particularly those who are most vulnerable to the health, social, and economic impacts of COVID-19.
- For many Canadians who were already struggling, it's even harder now, and they are turning more and more to charities and non-profit organizations for help.
- This is putting a tremendous amount of pressure on those organizations.
- That's why we are setting up a \$350 million Emergency Community Support Fund to support charities and non-profits in their important work and get vulnerable Canadians the resources they need.
- The money will flow through national organizations like the United Way, Community Foundations Canada, and the Red Cross that can get funding to local organizations and vulnerable people quickly.
- This is money for things like training volunteers, increasing at-home deliveries for seniors or driving people with disabilities to appointments.
- With this fund, we're giving more resources to reflect the new realities and difficulties brought on by the pandemic.

#### Armed Forces Support for Long-Term Care Homes in Quebec

##### Lead: DND

- We understand that seniors in long-term care facilities are especially vulnerable to COVID-19, and their health and safety is our government's top priority.
- We are deeply concerned about the outbreak of this virus across the country, and recognize the tragic devastation it has had in these facilities across Quebec.
- That is why we have approved Quebec's request for medical specialists to be deployed to long-term care facilities across the province that have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19.
- Through use of the Canadian Armed Forces, the Red Cross and Health Canada's volunteer portal, resources are being mobilized to help Quebec through this difficult time.
- We have been clear: like during emergencies that threaten our citizens, especially our most vulnerable, the Canadian Armed Forces will do what it can to be there for those in need.

#### Support for Innovation

##### Lead: ISI

- Canada is a nation of innovators who drive our economy forward and create new opportunities for all Canadians.
- In the face of COVID-19, our Government recognizes that many innovative, early-stage companies are unable to access existing emergency support measures.
- To better support these organizations, we are investing \$250 million through the National Research Council of Canada's Industrial Research Assistance Program.
- We're supporting our innovators today, so that they can help us emerge from this challenge stronger than ever.

#### Arts and Culture

##### Lead: Heritage

- With stages dark, sports events cancelled, and summer festivals postponed, many of the organizations that keep our communities strong are struggling to make ends meet.

- Through a new \$500M COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund for Cultural, Heritage, and Sports Organizations, we will make sure that our artistic and athletic organizations are supported during this challenging time.

#### Canada Food Inspection Agency

##### Lead: Agriculture

- We are announcing \$20M to support CFIA's essential service of making sure Canadians continue to have access to safe and high-quality food on their grocery store shelves and kitchen tables.
- This investment allows the CFIA to hire, train and equip additional staff and permits more overtime and extra shifts.
- It also supports the sharing of inspection resources between provincially and federally inspected processing facilities to meet any changes in processing capacity.
- Our government is working every step of the way with provinces and territories, workers and businesses, to ensure our food supply chain adapts to the evolving situation.

#### Mission Institution and Canadian Penitentiaries

##### Lead: Public Safety

- Our government is committed to protecting the safety of correctional staff, inmates, and the public in all of its operations.
- To prevent the spread of COVID-19 at Mission Institution:
  - all inmates and staff are given masks to wear.
  - additional hand-washing stations have been implemented;
  - hygiene supplies have been increased
  - high-contact surfaces are disinfected multiple times a day.
- To ensure round-the-clock care, there is also now a 24/7 nursing roster and a 7 day a week physician coverage to provide ongoing care to inmates.
- And a mobile medical unit is in place to help support inmates who may require hospital care.
- We continue to work with public health and local hospitals to support the needs of our inmates.

#### Support for Northern Communities

##### Lead: Northern Affairs

- We're working to ensure that all Canadians have access to the quality food and essential healthcare they need, during this difficult time.
- To address the unique needs of Northerners, we are working with territorial governments to address immediate health, economic, and transportation needs in the North.
- These measures will:
  - transfer \$72.6M to the territory governments to support their COVID-19 health and social services preparations and response.
  - provide up to \$17.3M to the territory governments to support northern air carriers to ensure the continued supply of food, medical supplies, and other essential goods and services to remote and fly-in communities.
  - make available \$15M in non-repayable support for businesses in the territories to help address the impacts of COVID-19.
  - provide an additional \$25M to Nutrition North Canada to increase food affordability so families can afford much-needed nutritious food and personal hygiene products.
- We will continue to work with all of our partners to keep Northerners and all Canadians safe and healthy.

#### Food Banks

##### Lead: Agriculture

- COVID-19 is increasing the need for food among many Canadians and is having a major impact on the operations of local food organizations.
- Today, Prime Minister Trudeau announced \$100 million in support of organizations who are on the frontlines making sure people get essential food support in their time of need.

- Food Banks Canada will receive \$50 million, while \$20 million has been evenly divided between Second Harvest, Community Food Centres Canada, the Breakfast Club, and the Salvation Army.
- Organizations will work with local partners to meet urgent and increased food needs, including those of Indigenous and Northern populations.
- Where gaps in service are identified, the Government of Canada has allocated a further \$30 million to go towards other local-level organizations.
- Funds will be used primarily for the purchase of food and other basic necessities. Funding can also be used for creative approaches to get those Canadians the food they need.
- Canadians can be confident we will be there every step of the way to support those working in our supply chain and ensure Canada's food security.

#### PPE Procurement

Lead: PSPC

- Our government is investing \$2 billion to purchase protective personal equipment, including things like more masks and face shields, gowns, ventilators, test kits and swabs, and hand sanitizer.
- Since the outbreak, many businesses have put their hand up and asked us what they can do to help. Over 22,000 submissions from companies interested or able to sell to Canada are being worked through and all efforts are being made to secure deliveries as quickly as possible.
- We announced a new strategy that will make it easier for companies to help out during this critical time.
- We launched Canada's Plan to Mobilize Industry to Fight COVID-19 to ensure that we can quickly produce, here in Canada, the things we need to prevent the spread of the virus.
- Since its launch, we have spoken to more than 2,900 Canadian companies that have offered their expertise and capacity to meet the country's need for personal protective equipment and critical health supplies.
- We have signed procurement contracts with several Canadian companies to make medical supplies such as ventilators, surgical masks, medical gowns and test kits. We've also signed letters of intent with five other companies: Precision Biomonitoring, Fluid Energy Group, Irving Oil, Calko Group, and Stanfield's.
- This initiative will help companies that are already making things like masks, ventilators, and hand sanitizer massively scale up production.
- It will also provide support to those who want to retool their manufacturing facilities to contribute to this fight.
- The government has ordered millions of supplies to ease the pressure on healthcare facilities.
  - We have sourced more than 230 million surgical masks and over 16 million have already been delivered.
  - We have roughly 75 million N95 masks on order.
  - We have received nearly 10 million pairs of medical gloves and are procuring hundreds of millions more.
- We are mobilizing all of Canada to protect our healthcare workers so they can continue to protect all Canadians. All hands on deck.

#### Indigenous Community Support Fund

Lead: ISC

- We recognize that First Nation, Inuit and Métis are among the most vulnerable and face unique challenges in addressing COVID-19
- That is why we are providing immediate support through the distinctions-based Community Support Fund so First Nation, Inuit and Metis communities can address their specific needs as they prepare for and react to the spread COVID19.
- Indigenous communities are resilient and full of solutions and innovative ideas. These funds will flow directly to Indigenous communities and groups across the country, to allow maximum flexibility in adapting responses to local needs.
- These funds could be used for, but not limited to:
  - support for Elders,
  - food insecurity,
  - educational and other support for children,

- mental health assistance and emergency response services.
- This is just the start. We know that more support will be needed and we will be here to make sure no Indigenous community is left behind.

## **Agriculture**

### **Lead: Agriculture**

- Our farmers and food businesses play an essential role in our country's plan to manage the outbreak of COVID-19.
- We recognize that a reliable labour force is crucial to food businesses across the supply chain. The Interim Order exempting temporary foreign workers from the travel restrictions is now in place, and we are working closely with the sector to develop health protocols to ensure that workers can safely observe a 14-day isolation period upon entering the country.
- We're also supporting farmers by giving Farm Credit Canada an extra \$5 billion in lending capacity and a 6-month Stay of Default on Advance Payment Program loans for several sectors, including grains and oilseeds, pulses, cattle and flowers. These measures do not add to the debt burden of farmers. They will help with cash flow issues and give them the financial breathing room they need to buy the inputs required for the upcoming planting season.
- We will continue to closely monitor the situation as it evolves and stand ready to support our farmers and our food processing sector, who provide an essential service to Canadians.

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