

Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

From: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Sent: April 23, 2020 3:00 PM
To: André Fillion
Cc: Angela Intranuovo; Bryan Blom; Carole Charette; Caroline Audette; Lord, David (Ext.); Elizabeth Lindsay; Christensen, Esther (Ext.); Boulay, Francois (Ext.); Geneviève Côté; James Stott; Jean-François Létourneau; Jeff Van Zyl; Jody Wood; Judith Rorai; Julie Hahn; Karim Adam; Maria Cama; Marie-Christine Lalonde; Marie-Claude Hurens; Media; Medias Sociaux / Social Media (TPSGC/PWGSC); Melissa Pacheco; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Mia Arruda; Nathalie Larocque; Nicholas Dorion; Pamela Eades; Renee Stephen; Rosemary Kinnis; Sara Lacasse; Sarah Moreau-Bélanger; Selma Mesri; Sonia Harvey; Usman Chaudhry; Amanda Semaan; Annie Scalès; Crystal Allan; Edith Dauphinais; Jenny Bascur; Michael Milito; Nathalie Bétoté Akwa; Nicolas Boucher; PA DGA Bureau SMA / AP PB ADM Office (TPSGC/PWGSC); Vanessa Audette
Subject: Media Heads-Up / Tier 1 - Follow-up: COVID-19 - Empty planes from China / theBreaker

The following media request has been identified as **Tier 1**.

Communications sector will work with your group to develop the first draft response. New information not previously approved should be identified in purple.

Highest level of approval: MO

Program ADM approved response: April-23-20 at 16:30

Media heads-up

theBreaker

Mackin, Bob (theBreaker)

Date call received: April-22-20 at 14:00

Deadline: April-24-20 at 16:00

Tier 1 - Follow-up: COVID-19 - Empty planes from China

CONTEXT (for your information): The reporter has a follow-up question regarding the flight number and destination of empty PPE flights.

QUESTIONS / RESPONSES:

Q1. What were the airline(s), flight numbers and destinations of the empty PPE flights?

Response provided to the reporter on April 22:

In response to your query, we are taking an aggressive procurement approach to secure the life-saving equipment and supplies that Canada needs from a diverse range of suppliers both internationally and here at home, while recognizing the risks posed by fragile supply chains, the fluidity of the current situation around the world and high global demand.

We can confirm that four flights chartered by the Government of Canada arrived safely in Canada from China over the weekend carrying medical supplies like N95 and surgical masks, protective coveralls and a key component in testing reagent, as well as orders for other jurisdictions, including Quebec and the Red Cross. This is an offer that has been made

to all provinces and territories. A number of federally chartered cargo flights are also expected to transit from China to Canada over the course of this week.

In addition to this, one federally chartered flight left China for Canada over the weekend without its intended cargo on board. This occurred due to on the ground congestion caused by a significant surge in cargo flights out of terminals at the Shanghai Airport. As a result, the intended cargo was unable to get to the plane before its required takeoff time.

We are closely monitoring this issue and continue to work closely with officials in China, including Ambassador Barton and other diplomatic staff to navigate the current, complex supply chain environment. Steps are being taken to ensure that this does not occur moving forward.

The federal government will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that we have the supplies to meet both Canada's short and long term needs.

Note that we cannot confirm information on the second flight organized by another jurisdiction.