

## Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

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**From:** Media <[media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** July 5, 2020 12:29 PM  
**To:** Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC); fitz-morris, James (SPAC/PSPC)  
**Cc:** Media; Jean-François Létourneau; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Bryan Blom; Elizabeth Lindsay  
**Subject:** FOR MO APPROVAL: Media response / Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Procurement and Logistics in China / Reuters (Canada)

Happy Sunday.

For your approval please. Response to Q3 has been provided by GAC (highlighted). [New info.](#)

Michèle

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### Media response

#### Reuters (Canada)

#### Martell, Allison (Reuters (Canada))

Date call received: June-30-20 at 17:30

Deadline: July-07-20 at 14:00

Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Procurement and Logistics in China

**CONTEXT** (for your information): Reporter is trying to better understand the federal government's work procuring supplies from China during the pandemic. She is seeking details about the "on-the-ground support ... for transportation, receiving, storage services and customs clearances" that the federal government established in China early on.

Reporter has requested an interview with anyone involved in that initiative who might be available.

PSPC will lead on all questions except on Q3, which is led by Global Affairs Canada.

### VALUE STATEMENT

The Government of Canada is collaborating with provinces and territories on an ongoing basis to identify their needs and purchase required equipment, supplies, and services to combat COVID-19.

Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is taking an aggressive approach to buying, especially when it comes to personal protective equipment for frontline healthcare workers.

This includes:

- Ordering ahead in bulk on behalf of provinces and territories
- Supplementing those orders by purchasing limited-availability supplies that are immediately available;

- Ramping up the domestic manufacturing capacity, through the Plan to Mobilize Industry to fight COVID-19, being led by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada.

This is over and above the efforts provinces and territories are taking to secure their own

supply. **QUESTIONS / RESPONSES:**

**Q1. When and why did you decide to establish on the ground support for procurement in China? (PSPC lead)**

**Q2. What did that involve — new staff from Canada, reassigning people who were in China, setting up a new office? (PSPC lead)**

**Q3. What kind of support or approval did you need to get from the Chinese government to do this? (GAC lead)**

**Q4. What do those people do in a typical day? (PSPC lead)**

**Q5. Is the site still operating? (PSPC lead)**

**Q6. Can you share some example of critical procurement made possible because of this initiative? (PSPC lead)**

Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have evolved and adapted our approach to ensure the goods we've ordered make their way back to Canada

We have an agreement in place with Bolloré Logistics Canada Inc. to provide transportation, receiving, storage services and support with customs clearances on the ground in China. Oversight is maintained throughout the process from the point of pick up from the supplier until supplies are loaded onto the plane and it departs. The first flight under this agreement arrived on April 1st.

On April 10th, we also put in place an agreement with Deloitte Canada for services related to tracking and managing logistics, and assisting with due diligence in support of the Government of Canada's response to COVID-19. This end-to-end approach includes working with Canadian airline partners Air Canada and CargoJet to carry the cargo back to Canada.

The Government of Canada liaised with Chinese authorities to facilitate exports of personal protective equipment (PPE) and other medical supplies to Canada. For instance, the government assisted Canadian partners with obtaining landing permits for flights transporting medical supplies, visas for flight crews, custom clearance, and product certifications requirements.

Global Affairs officials and third parties on the ground in China are helping to navigate the current, complex supply chain environment, working with their own networks to identify and vet new sources of supply for Canada. They are also helping to navigate and facilitate customs clearances for the supplies we purchase, ensuring smooth international transportation to Canada. We continue to leverage all diplomatic channels, and are being supported by our diplomats' knowledge of international markets to facilitate this process.

These arrangements are critical to the Government of Canada's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, with cargo flights now arriving daily in Canada. To date, we've received more than 90 plane loads of critical supplies, including millions of masks, gowns, and other essential PPE. We are also receiving sea shipments and to date, have received 19 shipments totalling more than 3 million litres of hand sanitizer.

For information on the supplies being ordered and received, including quantities, visit: <https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/comm/mc-cd/provisions-supplies-eng.html>

