

Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

From: Church, Leslie (SPAC/PSPC)
Sent: March 26, 2020 10:32 PM
To: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC)
Cc: Murdock, Kelly (SPAC/PSPC); Laycock, Tristan (SPAC/PSPC); Harris, Emily (SPAC/PSPC)
Subject: RE: For approval: Media response / COVID-19 - Procurement of ventilators, masks, swab kits and PPE

Hi, if still possible, the only thing I'd change is take out the mention of gowns. I don't believe any have been procured (global shortage).

From: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC)
Sent: March 26, 2020 8:57 PM
To: Church, Leslie (SPAC/PSPC) <leslie.church@canada.ca>
Cc: Murdock, Kelly (SPAC/PSPC) <kelly.murdock@canada.ca>; Laycock, Tristan (SPAC/PSPC) <tristan.laycock@canada.ca>; Harris, Emily (SPAC/PSPC) <emily.harris@canada.ca>
Subject: Re: For approval: Media response / COVID-19 - Procurement of ventilators, masks, swab kits and PPE

Hi Leslie,

Here are the responses for the same requests including changes from PMO, we're looking to get this out shortly but please let us know if you have any concerns or changes.

Thanks!
Cecely

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The Hill Times
Mazereeuw, Peter (The Hill Times)
Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Ventilator contracts

Q1. Can you please tell me how many contracts the government has awarded for the production of medical ventilators since the beginning of January?

RESPONSE:

Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is supporting the whole-of-government response to COVID-19 by spearheading the consolidated purchase of emergency equipment, supplies and services for federal, provincial and territorial needs.

As the COVID-19 situation is very fluid and evolving rapidly every day, so too are our the requirements and orders. We are placing as many orders as possible with suppliers who have the capacity to meet our needs — and the needs of the provinces and territories —nowand well into the future. We are exploring all opportunities to secure available supply, including in both large and small quantities.

The Government of Canada is engaging both new and existing suppliers, as well as are working with the more than 14,000 supplier submissions to our proactive call-out to businesses who may have the supplies we need on BuyandSell.gc.ca. We are also working directly with Canadian industry to scale-up and re-tool to produce essential medical supplies like masks and ventilators needed in Canada's fight against COVID-19.

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, as well as ventilators. While delivery timelines vary, additional deliveries began in mid-March.

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.

For any questions related to technical specifications and requirements and regarding the distribution of material please contact the Public Health Agency of Canada.

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La Presse

Leclerc, William (La Presse)

Tier 1 - COVID-19: number of contracts awarded and employees affected

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:

Q1. Could you provide me with a list of all contracts awarded related to COVID-19 and coronavirus in the past 90 days to today, March 25, 2020? I would like the name of each of the suppliers, the dollar value of each of these contracts, and the type of materials or medical supplies and/or equipment or devices, masks and/or other services purchased.

Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is supporting the whole-of-government response to COVID-19 by spearheading the consolidated purchase of emergency equipment, supplies and services for federal, provincial and territorial needs.

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 and those of the provinces and territories, now and into the future. We are exploring all opportunities to secure available supply, including in both large and small quantities.

The Government of Canada is soliciting new and existing suppliers, and is working with the more than 14,000 bids from suppliers through our proactive call for tenders to companies that might have the supplies we need on the [Buyandsell.gc.ca](https://buyandsell.gc.ca) website. We are also working directly with Canadian industry to increase and retool production of essential medical supplies, such as masks and ventilators, needed to support Canada's fight against COVID-19.

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, test kits, gloves, masks, gowns and respirators. While delivery timelines vary, additional deliveries began in mid-March.

We continue to work with 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 the provinces and territories.

Q2. I would also like to know how many of your employees at PSPC have contracted COVID-19 to date.

A2. We are aware that there have been a few confirmed cases of COVID-19 among public servants, and given the rapidly evolving situation, we are cautious not to misrepresent what is happening. Departments respond appropriately to any suspected or confirmed cases and follow the directives of Health Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada.

On Mar 26, 2020, at 5:30 PM, Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC) <cecely.roy@canada.ca> wrote:

I am also adding a similar request with the same response in French for La Presse. This is copied below under the response in English for your reference.

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*

On Mar 26, 2020, at 5:07 PM, Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC) <cecely.roy@canada.ca> wrote:

Hi Leslie,

For your context we are holding off on sending this response to David at Reuters. I spoke with him today to provide the context that we may have more to say in the coming days, and he is fine with waiting.

That being said, please let me know if you have changes to the response below to be sent to the Hill Times.

Thanks,

Cecely

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Lilifiggfoid4Reuter-s-Canada~~

~~Date call feat-12:-50~~

~~Deadline March 26-20 at 1140~~

~~Tier 1 COVID-19 Procurement of ventilators, masks, swab kits and PPE~~

~~QUESTIONS-AND-ANSW~~

~~Q1, Who did you buy ventilators from? Have they been delivered yet or just committed?~~

~~struggling? Do you think you got an order in before the US federal or state government?~~

~~Q3, Any progress on N95 masks? We have heard a rumour that 3M is refusing to ship to Canada have you run into anything like that on masks or other equipment?~~

~~Q4, What is the solution on N95 masks? Are there lesser-known suppliers that you think we can turn to, or is this a problem that will only be solved with new domestic production?~~

~~Q5, Who did you buy the swabs/swab kits from?~~
~~Q6, Is the personal protective equipment that you have promised Ontario (and presumably other provinces) going to come from the federal stockpile where it has been in storage, or are these new purchases?~~

2) Media response

The Hill Times

Mazereeuw, Peter (The Hill Times)

Date call received: March-25-20 at 17:15

Deadline: March-26-20 at 16:00

Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Ventilator contracts

Q1. Can you please tell me how many contracts the government has awarded for the production of medical ventilators since the beginning of January?

RESPONSE:

Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is supporting the whole-of-government response to COVID-19 by spearheading the consolidated purchase of emergency equipment, supplies and services for federal, provincial and territorial needs.

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. It would be **very** difficult to provide an accurate number at any given time. We are exploring all opportunities to secure available supply, including **in both** large and small quantities.

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, **as well as ventilators**. While delivery timelines vary, **some additional** deliveries began in mid-March.

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.

For any questions related to technical specifications and requirements and regarding the distribution of material please contact the Public Health Agency of Canada.

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La Presse

Leclerc, William (La Presse)

Date call received: March 24, 2020, at 7:30 PM

Deadline: March 27, 2020, at 4:00 PM

Tier 1 - COVID-19: number of contracts awarded and employees affected

CONTEXT: The researcher would like to obtain information on coronavirus-related contracts awarded and the number of departmental employees who have contracted COVID-19.

La Presse regularly reports on the number of people infected at various organizations.

Q1 will come from Commercial Procurement.

Q2 was forwarded to Health Canada.

Q3 comes from an TBS-approved response. However, for the record, the response is NIL as of this morning.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:

Q1. Could you provide me with a list of all contracts awarded related to COVID-19 and coronavirus in the past 90 days to today, March 25, 2020? I would like the name of each of the suppliers, the dollar value of each of these contracts, and the type of materials or medical supplies and/or equipment or devices, masks and/or other services purchased. (AB - COMMERCIAL)

Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is supporting the whole-of-government response to COVID-19 by spearheading the consolidated purchase of emergency equipment, supplies and services for federal, provincial and territorial needs.

The COVID-19 situation is very fluid and evolving rapidly every day, as are our requirements and orders. It would be **extremely** difficult to provide exact figures at any given time.

We are placing as many orders as possible with our suppliers who have the capacity to meet our needs, now and into the future. We are exploring all opportunities to secure available supply, including in both large and small quantities.

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 **and respirators**. While delivery timelines vary, **additional** deliveries began in mid-March.

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.

Q2. I would also like to know the cost of awareness campaigns. (Health Canada/PHAC)

Q3. I would also like to know how many of your employees at PSPC have contracted COVID-19 to date.

A3. As mentioned by the Treasury Board Secretariat last week, work is underway to centralize information on confirmed cases within the Public Service, and more official information will be available in due course. We are aware that there have been a few confirmed cases of COVID-19 among public servants, but given the rapidly evolving circumstances, we are cautious not to misrepresent the situation.