

## Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

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**From:** Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** March 17, 2020 3:30 PM  
**To:** Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC); Harris, Emily (SPAC/PSPC)  
**Cc:** Jean-François Létourneau; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Bryan Blom; Elizabeth Lindsay; James Stott; Media  
**Subject:** RE: For MO approval: Media response/ LEAD: AB COMM / Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Follow-up: Request for Information / CBC National News (Parliamentary Bureau)

Sorry, I should have included PHAC response in my previous email.

Canada's [National Emergency Strategic Stockpile](#) (NESS) contains supplies that provinces and territories can request in emergencies—such as infectious disease outbreaks, natural disasters and other public health events— when their own resources are not enough.

For security reasons, the Public Health Agency of Canada does not disclose specifics related to NESS holdings.

michèle

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**From:** Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC) [mailto:cecely.roy@canada.ca]  
**Sent:** March 17, 2020 3:27 PM  
**To:** Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Emily Harris <Emily.Harris@canada.ca>; Jean-François Létourneau <Jean-Francois.Letourneau@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger <MeShel.GulliverBelanger@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Bryan Blom <Bryan.Blom@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Elizabeth Lindsay <Elizabeth.Lindsay@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; James Stott <James.Stott@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: For MO approval: Media response/ LEAD: AB COMM / Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Follow-up: Request for Information / CBC National News (Parliamentary Bureau)

Thanks. Are we able to see their response for our awareness?

**Cecely Roy**  
(343) 549-7293

On Mar 17, 2020, at 3:25 PM, Media <[media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)> wrote:

Cecely, Emily,

I got confirmation that PHAC will respond to Q4.

Merci

Michèle

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** March 17, 2020 9:28 AM  
**To:** Cecely Roy <[cecely.roy@canada.ca](mailto:cecely.roy@canada.ca)>; Emily Harris <[Emily.Harris@canada.ca](mailto:Emily.Harris@canada.ca)>  
**Cc:** Media <[media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>; Jean-François Létourneau <[Jean-Francois.Letourneau@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:Jean-Francois.Letourneau@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger <[MeShel.GulliverBelanger@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:MeShel.GulliverBelanger@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>; Bryan Blom

<[Bryan.Blom@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:Bryan.Blom@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>; Elizabeth Lindsay <[Elizabeth.Lindsay@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:Elizabeth.Lindsay@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>; James Stott <[James.Stott@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:James.Stott@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>

**Subject:** For MO approval: Media response/ LEAD: AB COMM / Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Follow-up: Request for Information / CBC National News (Parliamentary Bureau)

Good morning,

For your approval please. [New info](#).

Please note that we consulted with PHAC to validate if they can take the lead on [Q4](#). To avoid a delay in responding to the reporter, we are moving this up in the meantime. We have yet to receive a response from them... Will follow up shortly.

Thank you,

Michèle

**Media response**

**CBC National News (Parliamentary Bureau)**

**Thompson, Elizabeth (CBC National News (Parliamentary Bureau))**

**Date call received: March-16-20 at 11:50**

**Deadline: March-17-20 at 15:00**

Tier 1 - COVID-19: Follow-up - Request for Information

**CONTEXT** (for your information): The reporter followed up with a few additional questions.

**QUESTIONS / RESPONSES:**

**Q1. How does the call out work with the existing standing offer holders? Does the government turn to them first then go to the new suppliers if the existing ones can't meet the demand?**

**A1.** In addition to leveraging existing sources of supply, Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is proactively engaging industry to help meet Canada's needs. PSPC has stood-up a dedicated team of procurement specialists who continue to assess responses as they come in, and is establishing a database of additional suppliers that may be used to meet future increased demand. [Based on the requirements we receive from the Public Health Agency of Canada \(PHAC\), we will determine the most appropriate procurement approaches.](#)

**Q2. Would it be possible to find out how many suppliers have responded to the call out and in what kinds of categories?**

**A2.** [To date, Public Services and Procurement Canada \(PSPC\) has received more than 600 responses from interested suppliers. PSPC has stood-up a dedicated team of procurement specialists who continue to assess responses as they come in. The list of products and services requested is available at: <https://buyandsell.gc.ca/calling-all-suppliers-help-canada-combat-covid-19>](#)

**Q3. Is there any restriction or preference to Canadian companies or manufacturers.**

**A3.** [There are no restrictions or preferences to Canadian suppliers. We are seeking](#)

input from any suppliers who have products and services available to meet future increased demand.

**Q4. Do you have any stats on the government's existing supplies of the items on the call out list?**

**A4.** The National Emergency Stockpile Supply is the federal stockpile of supplies maintained by PHAC that provinces and territories can request in emergencies, such as infectious disease outbreaks, natural disasters and other public health events.

PSPC is working on behalf of the PHAC to proactively engage with industry to meet the increased demand for certain product and services. = PHAC LEAD (TBC)

**Q5. What happens once a potential supplier answers the call out? Are there verifications on the company and/or the products they say they can supply?**

**A5.** As responses from suppliers are submitted to PSPC, we are working in collaboration with PHAC to ensure the necessary certification documents are in place.

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Response provided on Friday, March 13:

COVID-19 is a rapidly evolving global challenge. The Government of Canada is working closely with local, provincial, territorial, and international partners to minimize its health, economic, and social impacts in Canada and around the world.

The Government of Canada is taking action with a whole-of-government response to COVID-19. This includes establishing a more than \$1 billion COVID-19 Response Fund and making \$10 billion available for businesses through the Business Development Bank and Export Development Canada, amongst other initiatives.

On Monday, March 9, the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister wrote to all Premiers announcing our intention to lead a bulk procurement efforts on healthcare supplies responding to the COVID-19 outbreak. We stand ready to respond to any further procurement needs from provinces and territories.

Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) as the Government of Canada's central purchaser, is spearheading the consolidated purchase of emergency supplies and services required for Canada, including at the federal, provincial and territorial levels. We recognize that some of these goods are in high demand around the world, and therefore in addition to leveraging existing sources of supply, Public Services and Procurement Canada is proactively engaging industry to help meet Canada's needs and also to ensure that providers have a clear pathway to connect with the Government of Canada if they are able to supply goods and services that may be of use. This is consistent with the response from other countries affected by the pandemic.

Public Services and Procurement Canada has stood-up a dedicated team of procurement specialists who are implementing flexible and innovative procurement approaches to best meet Canada's needs. To ensure that we are effectively engaging industry and potential avenues for purchasing, our procurement approach includes a call to suppliers who may be able to provide products and services and are invited to visit <https://buyandsell.gc.ca/calling-all-suppliers-help-canada-combat-covid-19>.

The call to suppliers was posted to the Government of Canada's buy and sell webpage on March 12.