

Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

From: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Sent: March 18, 2020 8:49 AM
To: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC); Harris, Emily (SPAC/PSPC)
Cc: Jean-François Létourneau; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Elizabeth Lindsay; James Stott; Bryan Blom; 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)

Morning,

To avoid confusion, here's the response with updated numbers. The response for Q4 is from PHAC.

On that note, I will follow up with them so they don't forget to send us their response to follow-up questions they receive from the reporter.

Merci

michèle

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 1,500 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? (response from PHAC)

A4. 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.

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.

From: Bryan Blom
Sent: March 17, 2020 6:32 PM
To: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Cecely Roy <cecely.roy@canada.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>; 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)

Good evening all,

As discussed with Cecely, the number of submissions received has increased quite a bit since we put these answers together yesterday. As such, please see edit (highlighted green) in A2. I have validated this with Program.

Thanks,

Bryan

From: Media
Sent: March 17, 2020 3:55 PM
To: Cecely Roy <cecely.roy@canada.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>
Media <media@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)

Apologies on behalf of PHAC. They sent the response as it was a standard one for them. They have a more detailed response in approval right now and they will share it with us.

From: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC) [<mailto:cecely.roy@canada.ca>]
Sent: March 17, 2020 3:31 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 Michèle - do we know if this has already been sent or if we can coordinate timing on sending the response to the reporter?

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 17, 2020, at 3:29 PM, Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca> wrote:

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

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>

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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> wrote:

Cecely, Emily,

I got confirmation that PHAC will respond to Q4.

Merci

Michèle

From: Media

Sent: March 17, 2020 9:28 AM

To: Cecely Roy <cecely.roy@canada.ca>; Emily Harris <Emily.Harris@canada.ca>
Cc: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.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>

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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.](#)

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A2. To date, [Public Services and Procurement Canada \(PSPC\) has received more than 1,500 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>

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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.