

Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

From: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Sent: April 21, 2020 2:04 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 Scalis; Crystal Allan; Edith Dauphinais; Nathalie Bétoté Akwa; Nicolas Boucher; PA DGA Bureau SMA / AP PB ADM Office (TPSGC/PWGSC); Vanessa Audette
Subject: Media Heads-Up / Tier 4 - COVID-19 - Empty federally chartered PPE flights / Business in Vancouver

Unless advised otherwise, the media request will be sent for MO approval at 14:30.

The following media request has been identified as **Tier 4**.
Highest level of approval: MO

Media heads-up

Business in Vancouver

Mackin, Bob (Business in Vancouver)

Date call received: April-21-20 at 13:15

Deadline: April-21-20 at 17:00

Tier 4 - COVID-19 - Empty federally chartered PPE flights

CONTEXT (for your information):

The reporter mentions the PM referred this morning in his daily news conference to two federally chartered PPE flights that returned to Canada from China empty, and he cited a decision by Chinese authorities. He would like to obtain more information.

Media Relations recommends using the same statement previously approved and used by MO, today April 21, 2020, to respond to this media request.

VALUE STATEMENT:

QUESTIONS / RESPONSES:

Q1. What were the airlines, flight numbers and destinations?

Q2. Was this the cause of the supplier, distributor, cargo delivery company, Chinese government authorities or all of the above?

Q3. How will the government remedy this situation?

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 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.

In addition to this, one federally chartered cargo flight returned from China to Canada over the weekend without its intended shipment 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.

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