

## Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

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**From:** Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** June 12, 2020 4:24 PM  
**To:** Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC); fitz-morris, James (SPAC/PSPC)  
**Cc:** Bryan Blom; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Jean-François Létourneau; Media  
**Subject:** FYI to MO - For PSPC FYI - CBC News (Elizabeth Thompson) - procurement process and defective PPE received  
**Attachments:** RE: For MO Approval - Media response LEAD: AB COMM- Tier 1 / COVID-19 - NSE and defective PPE / CBC National News (Parliamentary Bureau)

Hi Cecely and James,

For your information, HC/PHAC has shared their approved response with us to flag any concerns. Unless advised otherwise, we'll inform them at 5 p.m. that we have no concerns with the response.

Note: We have a response to a request from that same reporter on same subject (different questions), in approval with your office. Most recent copy attached.

Thanks,

Marc  
873-354-7219

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**From:** Bryan Blom  
**Sent:** Friday, June 12, 2020 4:20 PM  
**To:** Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Vanessa Audette <Vanessa.Audette@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger <MeShel.GulliverBelanger@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Nathalie Bétoté Akwa <Nathalie.BetoteAkwa@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Edith Dauphinais <Edith.Dauphinais@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Jean-François Létourneau <Jean-Francois.Letourneau@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: For PSPC FYI - CBC News (Elizabeth Thompson) - procurement process and defective PPE received

Looks fine to me, but heads up that I believe this will be the first public mention of the defective gloves – we should give MINO a heads up.

Thanks,

Bryan Blom

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Services publics et  
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Public Services and  
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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** June 12, 2020 4:17 PM  
**To:** Bryan Blom <[Bryan.Blom@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:Bryan.Blom@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Vanessa Audette <[Vanessa.Audette@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:Vanessa.Audette@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger <[MeShel.GulliverBelanger@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:MeShel.GulliverBelanger@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>; Nathalie Bétoté Akwa <[Nathalie.BetoteAkwa@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:Nathalie.BetoteAkwa@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>; Edith Dauphinais <[Edith.Dauphinais@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:Edith.Dauphinais@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>; Jean-François Létourneau <[Jean-Francois.Letourneau@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:Jean-Francois.Letourneau@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>; Media <[media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: For PSPC FYI - CBC News (Elizabeth Thompson) - procurement process and defective PPE received  
**Importance:** High

Hi all,

Our colleagues over at PHAC are sharing their response to Elizabeth Thompson, who has contacted them . They ask that we let them know by 5 p.m. today if we have any concerns.

Note: We have a response to a request from that same reporter on same subject (different questions), in approval with MO. Most recent copy attached.

Please advise if there are any concerns with their response.

Thanks,  
Marc

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**From:** Gagnon, Andre (HC/SC) [<mailto:andre.gagnon@canada.ca>]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 12, 2020 4:10 PM  
**To:** Media <[media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)>  
**Subject:** For PSPC FYI - CBC News (Elizabeth Thompson) - procurement process and defective PPE received

PSPC, while approvals are ongoing, we plan to close with the below later today.

Please contact us by 5pm with any concerns.

Andre

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**Reporter/Outlet:** CBC News (Elizabeth Thompson)

**Date Received:** June 11

**Deadline to Reporter:** June 12

**Impact:** MEDIUM (2)

**Complexity:** MEDIUM (2)

**Background/Context:**

**Questions and Responses:**

**Q1- In committee testimony this week it was mentioned that some of the PPE and other goods the government has ordered to deal with the pandemic have been found to be defective when they arrived. Can you provide a breakdown of what goods were found to be defective, the quantities, values and suppliers?**

To date, a large majority of the products received by the Government of Canada have met the technical specifications for healthcare settings for COVID-19 response; however, as a result the Public Health Agency of Canada's (PHAC) stringent review process, approximately 10 million KN95 respirators and 3 million nitrile gloves were assessed as not meeting the technical specifications. Please see the [recent advisory](#) on certain respirators. These items were not distributed to provinces and territories.

**Q2- Can you explain the procurement and inspection process for PPE, such as masks?**

Personal protective equipment and medical supplies received by the Government of Canada, whether procured internationally or domestically, are verified by PHAC that it meets the Government of Canada technical specifications for COVID-19 as available on Public Services and Procurement Canada's buy and sell website. It is the same process for donations.

The process for verification varies depending on the medical device. For example, KN95 respirators, as an accepted alternative to N95 respirators, are visually inspected to verify for defects in design and construction, and tested to confirm they meet specifications for filtering face pieces. Gowns and surgical masks are visually inspected and tested for fluid penetration.

If PHAC cannot account for the quality, it is not allocated to the provinces and territories for frontline healthcare response. Supplies that do not meet specifications are subsequently assessed for potential for use in non-healthcare settings.

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André Gagnon

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Serving Health Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada | Au service de Santé Canada et de l'Agence de la santé publique du Canada

Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

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