

## Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

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**From:** Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** April 1, 2020 2:22 PM  
**To:** Harris, Emily (SPAC/PSPC); Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC)  
**Cc:** Bryan Blom; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Media; Jean-François Létourneau; Elizabeth Lindsay; James Stott  
**Subject:** REVISED: For MO approval: Media response - Tier 1 / COVID-19 - Procurement of ventilators, masks, swab kits and PPE / Reuters Canada

Emily, Cecely,

Please find below the revised response for Reuters, which is aligned with La Presse's and CBC's responses (which I sent around 1:40).

Merci!

Michèle

### **1) Media response**

**Reuters Canada**

**Ljunggren, David (Reuters Canada)**

**Date call received: March-25-20 at 12:50**

**Deadline: March-26-20 at 11:00**

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

**CONTEXT** (for your information): This national political correspondent for Reuters is asking for details about the Government of Canada's procurement of ventilators, masks, swab kits and personal protective equipment.

### **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:**

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

**Q2. How did you pull this off when so many other governments are struggling? Do you think you got an order in before the US federal or state governments?**

**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 those new purchases?**

The Government is taking an aggressive, proactive procurement approach to fulfill immediate and future requirements. This includes buying in bulk from reputable

distributors, to secure key items like masks and ventilators, which are in high global demand.

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. We are exploring all opportunities to secure available supply, including large and small quantities. We are aggressively ordering in the marketplace, recognizing the risks posed by fragile supply chains.

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. While delivery timelines vary, some deliveries began in mid-March.

We can confirm that, to date, we have placed orders for more than 1,500 ventilators, more than 157 million surgical masks and more than 60 million N-95 respirators. Deliveries of many goods started last week and will continue on an ongoing basis.

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.

Through the [Plan to Mobilize Industry to fight COVID-19](#), the Government is also introducing new measures to directly support businesses to rapidly scale up production or re-tool their manufacturing lines to develop products made in Canada that will help in the fight against COVID-19.

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