

Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

From: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Sent: May 22, 2020 8:04 AM
To: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC); fitz-morris, James (SPAC/PSPC)
Cc: Media; Jean-François Létourneau; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Elizabeth Lindsay; James Stott; Bryan Blom; Sara Lacasse; Vivianne Soubhie; Martine Skelton; Rachel Lagacé
Subject: For MO approval - Media response - Tier 1 / COVID-19 - Tender for PPE logistics / The Hill Times

Good morning Cecely, James,

For MO Approval, please. [New info](#).

Merci,

Stefanie

Media response

The Hill Times

Mazereeuw, Peter (The Hill Times)

Date call received: May-12-20 at 20:20

Deadline: May-21-20 at 17:00

Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Tender for PPE logistics

CONTEXT (for your information):

The journalist has an interest in writing about the RFI for PPE logistics support. MO had already provided additional context on the RFI, but the reporter has follow-up questions.

Reference:

<https://buyandsell.gc.ca/procurement-data/tender-notice/PW-20-00913882>

VALUE STATEMENT:

The Government of Canada is collaborating with provinces and territories on an ongoing basis to identify their needs and purchase required equipment, supplies, and services to combat COVID-19.

Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is taking an aggressive approach to buying, especially when it comes to personal protective equipment for frontline healthcare workers.

This includes:

- Ordering ahead in bulk on behalf of provinces and territories
- Supplementing those orders by purchasing limited-availability supplies that are immediately available;
- Ramping up the domestic manufacturing capacity, through the Plan to Mobilize Industry to fight COVID-19, being led by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada.

This is over and above the efforts provinces and territories are taking to secure their own supply.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Q1. How does this tender relate to the government's announcement that Amazon, Canada Post, and Purolator would manage the distribution of PPE purchased by the government?

Q2. Is it accurate to describe this tender as a search for a business that can receive PPE supplies at a port or airport; deliver them to where they will be used; and handle all the steps in between?

Q3. Does this tender cover all of the PPE that PHAC is importing? Are other Government of Canada departments/agencies importing PPE that won't be covered by this contract?

Q4. Does the government expect to import PPE from places other than China?

Q5. What are the most common PPE items that the government expects will be imported via this contract?

Q6. What stage is the procurement in now (this week), and when does PSPC expect the final contract will be awarded and begin operation?

A1-6.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Canada is collaborating with the provinces and territories on the bulk procurement of personal protective equipment (PPE) for front-line health care workers in the provinces and territories.

As a result of the significant increase in supplies being purchased, both internationally and domestically, and the need to establish a reliable and efficient storage and distribution network, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) requires the assistance of a major logistics service provider for a long-term logistics solution, to complement existing services.

While these logistics services will be provided by a third party, the Public Health Agency of Canada will continue to maintain oversight on the amounts of personal protective equipment and supplies available, which provinces and territories are requesting them, and where they are being shipped.

These services will be for personal protective equipment purchased by or for the Public Health Agency of Canada.

The selected third party logistics provider will increase the Public Health Agency of Canada's capacity and supplement existing logistics services. While not responsible for importing, the provider will be responsible for:

- handling receipt of personal protective equipment supplies into Canada via all modes of transportation including air and sea
- deconsolidation
- stocktaking
- warehousing
- inventory management

- preparation for and national distribution
- providing or coordinating customs and brokerage services if required

The Government of Canada is purchasing supplies from a number of sources and countries, both internationally and domestically, that would be handled by the selected third party logistics solution provider. Canada Post and Purolator will still be involved when this is the best approach for distributing the personal protective equipment to provinces and territories.

This logistics solution is separate from the agreement signed with Amazon on April 1, 2020, which is primarily for the use of their online ordering platform. However, the selected logistics service provider must be capable of working with this Amazon technology.

An invitation to tender is expected to be issued directly to qualified suppliers in the coming weeks.

For more information on the supplies being purchased and received, including quantities, visit: <https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/comm/mc-cd/provisions-supplies-eng.html>.