

Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

From: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Sent: June 12, 2020 9:23 AM
To: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC); fitz-morris, James (SPAC/PSPC)
Cc: Elizabeth Lindsay; James Stott; Jean-François Létourneau; Lucie Brosseau; Martine Skelton; Media; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Rachel Lagacé; Sara Lacasse; Vivianne Soubhie
Subject: For MO Approval - Media response LEAD: AB COMM- Tier 1 / COVID-19 - NSE and defective PPE / CBC National News (Parliamentary Bureau)

Good morning James and Cecely,

For MO approval please. PHAC will respond to Q2.

Merci,

Marc
873-354-7219

Media response
CBC National News (Parliamentary Bureau)
Thompson, Elizabeth (CBC National News (Parliamentary Bureau))
Date call received: June-10-20 at 12:20
Deadline: June-12-20 at 17:00
Tier 1 - COVID-19 - NSE and defective PPE

CONTEXT (for your information):

The reporter is seeking to obtain a list of contracts awarded under the National Security Exemption (NSE) in relation to COVID-19. It was mentioned during the parliamentary committee yesterday that some of the good the government had purchased related to COVID-19, were found to be defective. She is hoping to get an answer to this portion by the end of the day, today.

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. Could I please get a copy of the list of contracts awarded under the NSE, including the suppliers, the value of the contracts, and the goods or services to be provided?

The Government of Canada is engaged in an unprecedented effort to acquire supplies and equipment to ensure that Canada's front-line healthcare workers stay safe and healthy. We are aggressively procuring in the global marketplace, while facing the risks posed by fragile supply chains, the fluidity of the current situation, and a surge in demand.

Transparency and accountability is critically important to the government, and we are committed to releasing a full account of our procurement efforts. However, given the volatility of the marketplace and the intense world-wide competition we are being careful with the information we are currently releasing. The disclosure of procurement information, such as supplier name and contract value, could jeopardize orders and compromise Canada's negotiating position, in particular in international markets.

Consequently, most contract information has not been disclosed. In particular, many solicitation documents for COVID-19 procurements conducted under a national security exception (NSE) are not published on Buyandsell. This allows the response to move rapidly as we purchase goods and services to protect the health and safety of Canadians as we face this pandemic. Similar procurement flexibilities are being applied by other countries around the world, due to COVID-19.

However, some general information has been released regarding [Canada's COVID-19 purchases](#), and we are posting some solicitation documents on Buyandsell, particularly in cases where we need to broaden our search for information or sources of supply. For example, we published a Request for Proposal for logistics services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Another example is the Notice of Proposed Procurement for cloth face masks, which we published on behalf of the Department of National Defence.

We have also publicly announced several contracts over the past few weeks and will continue to do so. We are also providing information about our response, for example, by posting details of our orders and deliveries of personal protective equipment [online](#).

In line with our ongoing commitment to transparency, contract information will be made publicly available as soon as our procurement of vital personal protective equipment (PPE) is no longer at risk.

Q2. Could I please get a breakdown of what goods were found to be defective, the quantities, and the suppliers?

Referred to PHAC.