

Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

From: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Sent: April 9, 2020 2:35 PM
To: Bryan Blom; Elizabeth Lindsay; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Emmanuelle Gallays; Harris, Emily (SPAC/PSPC); Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC)
Cc: Media; Jean-François Létourneau
Subject: FW: private firm contracted in China

Me again...

Please see follow-up questions from the TO Star.

- 1- I don't think we can
- 2- I guess a written response will do
- 3- Yes?

Awaiting your direction on this one.

Thank you,

Michèle

From: Oved, Marco [<mailto:moved@thestar.ca>]
Sent: April 9, 2020 2:24 PM
To: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Subject: Re: private firm contracted in China

Thanks for this.

A few follow ups:

- 1)Are you able to provide a copy of the agreement with Bollore?**
- 2)Can you arrange for me to speak with someone at procurement Canada about how the ground operation in China is working?**
- 3)Would you consent to Bollore providing me with an interview to discuss the operation on the ground in China, as I assume they will say that they cannot without the permission of the client, ie - you.**

please let me know as soon as you can for each individual point, rather than holding back until you have answers to all three.

thanks

Marco Chown Oved I Investigative Reporter I Toronto Star
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@MarcoOved

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From: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, April 8, 2020 7:29 PM
To: Oved, Marco <moved@thestar.ca>
Subject: RE: private firm contracted in China

Evening Marco,

Apologies for the delay in responding to you.

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 everything that is 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.

Q1. Can you tell me the name of the firm contracted in China for quality control, logistics and the rental of a warehouse in Shanghai?

Q2. Also, I've been hearing from lots of small business people who say they can use their own business connections in China to import masks and other PPE. Is the federal government supportive of these individual efforts or are these people making it harder for you to get PPE?

A1-A2. We are exploring all options for securing the necessary equipment and supplies to fight COVID-19, through both domestic and international supply chains.

By working directly with both new and existing suppliers and manufacturers, mobilizing Canadian industry and ensuring that suppliers have a clear pathway to supply goods and services that may be of use in response to COVID-19, we have placed orders and received millions of PPE supplies including masks, gloves and gowns. This includes engaging suppliers through the more than 22,000 submissions received to our call-out to suppliers at BuyandSell.gc.ca.

With regard to imports from China, the Government of Canada has secured on the ground support, including an agreement with Bolloré Logistics to provide transportation, reception, and storage services. As part of this agreement, Bolloré Logistics provides on-the-ground support in China, including organizing transportation of personal protective equipment purchased by the Government of Canada. This will be an ongoing process as orders are ready to be shipped to Canada.

Q3. Minister Anand has spoken about the "Team Canada" collaboration between the federal government and the provinces in procurement of PPE. beyond sharing space in federal cargo flights, what measures are being taken to ensure the provinces, federal and individual hospitals aren't bidding against each other and driving up prices as we see happening in the US?

A3. 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.

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has been working directly with provinces and territories to identify their medical supply needs in order to place bulk buy orders. Public Services and Procurement Canada manages the coordinated, consolidated bulk buying in working with both domestic and international suppliers to help meet these needs and ensure that frontline healthcare workers across the country are equipped and protected in the fight against COVID-19. Through the government's new agreement with Amazon, and their delivery partners that include Canada Post

and Purolator, these supplies are distributed to provinces and territories under the oversight of PHAC, as quickly as possible.

The Minister of Public Services and Procurement has also established a Federal-Provincial-Territorial Ministerial Procurement Working Group with her counterparts across the country, to ensure a coordinated approach to purchasing equipment and supplies needed to fight COVID-19 in the global marketplace.

Kind regards,

Michèle

Michèle LaRose

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Services publics et Approvisionnement Canada | Public Services and Procurement Canada

Gouvernement du Canada | Government of Canada

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From: Oved, Marco [\[mailto:moved@thestar.ca\]](mailto:moved@thestar.ca)

Sent: April 8, 2020 11:19 AM

To: Media [<media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>](mailto:media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)

Subject: Re: private firm contracted in China

Hi Stefanie,

The name of contractor in China can wait, if that helps at all.

My deadline is pretty firm for today's questions though. If you need an extra hour or two, I'd still like to hear from you, but can't guarantee it will make it into print.

Marco Chown Oved | Investigative Reporter | Toronto Star

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@MarcoOved

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From: Media [<media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>](mailto:media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)

Sent: Wednesday, April 8, 2020 11:14 AM

To: Oved, Marco [<moved@thestar.ca>](mailto:moved@thestar.ca)

Subject: RE: private firm contracted in China

Marco,

I understand you are working on a very tight deadline.

I wanted to let you know that we are working on both of your requests and doing our best to provide you with a response as soon as possible.

It is important for us to be included in your story and we would be grateful if you could give us a bit more time, if at all possible.

Thank you for your understanding,

Stéfanie Hemel

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Services publics et Approvisionnement Canada I Public Services and Procurement Canada

media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca

From: Oved, Marco [<mailto:moved@thestar.ca>]

Sent: April 8, 2020 9:54 AM

To: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>

Subject: Re: private firm contracted in China

Hello Marc-André

I have another question today that I need an answer to by 4pm:

Minister Anand has spoken about the "Team Canada" collaboration between the federal government and the provinces in procurement of PPE. beyond sharing space in federal cargo flights, what measures are being taken to ensure the provinces, feds and individual hospitals aren't bidding against each other and driving up prices as we see happening in the US?

Also, I've been hearing from lots of small business people who say they can use their own business connections in China to import masks and other PPE. Is the federal government supportive of these individual efforts or are these people making it harder for you to get PPE?

Thanks.

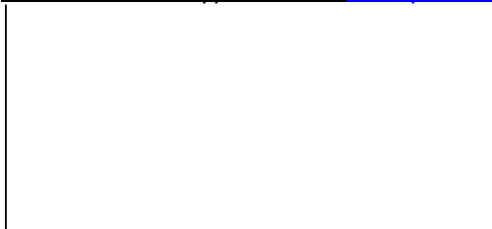
Marco Chown Oved

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@MarcoOved

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On Apr 7, 2020, at 5:41 PM, Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca> wrote:

Hi Marco,

We're still working on your request. We'll do our best to get back to you as soon as possible.

Thanks,

Marc-André Charbonneau

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Gouvernement du Canada I Government of Canada

819-420-5501

media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca

From: Media

Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2020 12:49 PM

To: Oved, Marco [<moved@thestar.ca>](mailto:moved@thestar.ca)

Subject: RE: private firm contracted in China

Hi Marco,

Thank you for your question.

We will get back to you as soon as possible.

Best,

Michèle LaRose

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From: Oved, Marco [fmailto:moved@thestar.ca](mailto:moved@thestar.ca)]

Sent: April 7, 2020 12:44 PM

To: Media [<media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>](mailto:media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)

Subject: private firm contracted in China

Hello,

Just a question following up on Minister Anand's comments today.

Can you tell me the name of the firm contracted in China for quality control, logistics and the rental of a warehouse in Shanghai, mentioned by the Minister?

thanks

Marco Chown Oved I Investigative Reporter I Toronto Star
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