

## Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

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**From:** Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** May 23, 2020 3:29 PM  
**To:** fitz-morris, James (SPAC/PSPC); Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC)  
**Cc:** Media; Jean-François Létourneau; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger; Bryan Blom; Elizabeth Lindsay; James Stott  
**Subject:** For MO information : Media statement Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Buying suspension on PPE / Global News (Ottawa)

Hello James and Cecely,

The media statement below is for your information only. It's a slightly tweaked version of MinO's Deloitte statement. The statement has been validated by program and DG Comms.

I will send it to the reporter on behalf of the Department within the next 15 min.

Thank you,

Michèle  
613-415-6302

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### **Media response**

**Global News (Ottawa)**

**Hill, Brian (Global News (Ottawa))**

**Date call received: May-21-20 at 10:40**

**Deadline: May-22-20 at 17:00**

**Tier 1 - COVID-19 – Buying suspension on PPE**

**CONTEXT (for your information):** The reporter is looking into an exchange between MP Kelly McCauley and DM Matthews during OGGO committee meeting on May 15.

During the meeting, Mr. McCauley referred to an email exchange between a potential PPE supplier and representatives from Deloitte.

The reporter indicates that according to an email, Deloitte informed the potential supplier that there was a "buying suspension" on PPE, which appears to have been in place for at least two weeks in late-April / early-May.

### **QUESTIONS / RESPONSES:**

**Q1. Was there a PPE buying suspension in place? If so, please provide details of this suspension, including the duration, if still ongoing, items covered by the suspension, and the reason. If not, please explain why emails indicated there was a buying suspension for PPE in place.**

**Q2. During the May 15 OGGO committee meeting Mr. Matthews was asked to provide a written response to Mr. McCauley's questions regarding the Deloitte emails and PPE buying**

**suspension: Has this response been submitted to the committee? If yes, please provide a copy of the response.**

There has been no suspension in purchasing personal protective equipment (PPE) of any kind. We continue to take an aggressive approach to buying—especially when it comes to PPE for frontline healthcare workers.

So far in May, we have placed orders for approximately 6.5 million masks, and we continue to pursue new orders.

In partnership with the Public Health Agency of Canada, alongside provinces and territories, we are continuing to place bulk orders for PPE and medical supplies in anticipation of short term and long term needs. This has been our approach from the outset.

As we continue to build up and strengthen Canada's supply chains for essential items like masks and gowns, we continue to see deliveries arriving from manufacturers internationally and domestically at a consistent pace.

In particular, over the last two months, we established an A to Z procurement approach to bring in goods from international manufacturers. This approach includes navigating the complex supply chain environment and ensuring that Canada's demands for these lifesaving supplies are met.

Canada has received 37 plane loads of PPE and medical supplies to date. In addition, domestic manufacturing has ramped up with deliveries of face shields, hand sanitizer and gowns already underway.