

Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

From: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Sent: May 22, 2020 4:52 PM
To: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC)
Cc: fitz-morris, James (SPAC/PSPC); Bryan Blom; Elizabeth Lindsay; Jean-François Létourneau; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger
Subject: RE: For MO approval - Media response - Tier 1 / COVID-19 Personal protective equipment suppliers and contracts / The Globe and Mail

Thanks Cecely,

We are quickly validating the changes at our end before responding. Do you want the department to deliver this response to others as well?

C.

From: Roy, Cecely (SPAC/PSPC) [<mailto:cecely.roy@canada.ca>]
Sent: May 22, 2020 4:38 PM
To: Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Cc: James Fitzmorris <james.fitz-morris@canada.ca>; Bryan Blom <Bryan.Blom@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Elizabeth Lindsay <Elizabeth.Lindsay@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Jean-François Létourneau <Jean-Francois.Letourneau@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger <MeShel.GulliverBelanger@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>
Subject: Re: For MO approval - Media response - Tier 1 / COVID-19 - Personal protective equipment suppliers and contracts / The Globe and Mail

Hello - See response below approved by MO with changes indicated in red text. Thanks!

Cecely Roy
343-549-7293

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The Government of Canada is engaged in an unprecedented effort to acquire supplies and equipment to ensure that our front-line healthcare workers and Canadians stay safe and healthy. Throughout this pandemic, there has been a surge in global demand for the PPE and medical supplies needed in response to COVID-19. As a result, we are operating in a highly competitive market place, and facing the risks posed by fragile international supply chains.

~~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.~~

Some of the procurements being carried out in response to COVID-19 are being done under a national security exception (NSE), meaning that many solicitation documents are not published on Buyandsell.

We are not operating in normal circumstances. With respect to international procurements in particular, the NSE allows us to protect Canada's supply chains and sources for these essential goods. It also ensures that we can move as quickly as possible to procure large quantities of life-saving equipment, which is then tested and deployed into the health system. In some cases, tenders are required to have to remain open for weeks. Given the urgency of Canada's needs as we face this pandemic and the environment in which we are currently operating, this length of time would not be feasible.

Also, considering the fierce global competition for the same products, including for N95 masks and surgical masks, among other products, if we were to disclose information about specific contracts or suppliers, we would jeopardize Canada's supply chains for these life-saving products, putting our delivery to Canada and into the hands of frontline health care workers at risk.

~~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.~~

~~In order to protect the integrity of our procurement we need to exercise caution at this time with information we are providing, so as not to jeopardize any of our orders.~~

However, we are posting some solicitation documents for COVID-19 related procurements on Buyandsell, particularly in cases where we need to broaden our search for information or sources of supply. For example, we recently 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 recently published on behalf of the Department of National Defence.

~~We have a 150-day period to publish the details of our response, for example, by posting the details of our response to the COVID-19 pandemic on Buyandsell. We will continue to do so. We are also providing information about our response, for example, by posting the details of our response to the COVID-19 pandemic on Buyandsell.~~

In the case of Medicom, it was one of the first Canadian companies to sign a Letter of Intent with the Government of Canada, under [Canada's Plan to Mobilize Industry to Fight COVID-19](#) as they had a proven track record for the capacity to produce N95 masks and surgical masks to Canada's standards for use in the

health system, and had the capacity to set up manufacturing in Canada for later this year.

After connecting with us through Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada, we have since successfully negotiated a long-term agreement that will see Medicom produce 20 million N95 respirators and 24 million surgical masks annually for the Government of Canada, for the next 10 years. The price paid per mask is considered commercial confidential information and as such, cannot be divulged.

With production starting in July, this agreement will help meet both current and future needs.

On May 22, 2020, at 9:11 AM, Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca> wrote:

Good morning,

I just wanted to let you know that the reporter followed up a few minutes ago.

Merci

Michèle

From: Media

Sent: May 20, 2020 11:00 AM

To: Cecely Roy <cecely.roy@canada.ca>; James Fitzmorris <james.fitz-morris@canada.ca>

Cc: Bryan Blom <Bryan.Blom@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Elizabeth Lindsay <Elizabeth.Lindsay@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; James Stott <James.Stott@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Jean-François Létourneau <Jean-Francoisletourneau@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Lucie Brosseau <Lucie.Brosseau@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Martine Skelton <Martine.Skelton@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Media <media@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Me'Shel Gulliver Bélanger <MeShel.GulliverBelanger@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Rachel Lagacé <Rachel.Lagace@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Sara Lacasse <Sara.Lacasse@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>; Vivianne Soubhie <Vivianne.Soubhie@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca>

Subject: For MO approval - Media response - Tier 1 / COVID-19 - Personal protective equipment suppliers and contracts / The Globe and Mail

Morning Cecely, James,

For your approval. The proposed answer was crafted from preapproved responses. New info in purple.

Charles.

Media response

The Globe and Mail

Walsh, Marieke (The Globe and Mail)

Date call received: May-15-20 at 17:05

Deadline: May-19-20 at 17:00 (the reporter still wants the information)

Tier 1 - COVID-19 - Personal protective equipment suppliers and contracts

CONTEXT (for your information):

This media request was referred to the department by the minister's office. The reporter listened in to the Deputy Minister's appearance at OGGO and is seeking more information about personal protective equipment suppliers and contracts.

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. Can you confirm that Mr. Matthews was referring to national security confidentiality when he said the list of international PPE suppliers was being kept under NSC?

Q2. Can you please provide me with a list of all of the companies that have received sole-sourced contracts with the GoC in relation to COVID-19 and what the values are of each of those contracts? Can you also provide me with a list of all of the contracts the government has signed in relation to COVID 19 and please detail whether they were put out to tender or whether they were sole-sourced, along with their cost.

Q3. Can you tell me how much the Medicom contract costs? I'd like to know the per mask rate that Canada has agreed to.

The Government of Canada is engaged in an unprecedented effort to acquire supplies and equipment to ensure that our front-line healthcare workers and Canadians 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.

In order to protect the integrity of our procurement processes, as well as the integrity of global supply chains, we need to exercise caution at this time with information we are providing, so as not to jeopardize any of our orders.

Some of the procurements being carried out in response to COVID-19 are being done under a national security exception (NSE), meaning that many solicitation documents 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, we are posting some solicitation documents for COVID-19 related procurements on Buyandsell, particularly in cases where we need to broaden our search for information or sources of supply. For example, we recently published a [Request for Proposals for logistics services](#) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Another example is the [Notice of Proposed Procurement for cloth face masks](#), which we recently 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 the case of Medicom, it was one of the first Canadian companies to sign a Letter of Intent with the Government of Canada, under Canada's Plan to Mobilize Industry to Fight COVID-19.

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