



Mr. John Williamson, M.P.  
Chair  
Standing Committee on Public Accounts  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

September 29, 2022

Dear Mr. Williamson:

On behalf of the responding Departments and Agencies, we are pleased to provide a status update on the second recommendation from the Report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts (PACP) on Securing Personal Protective Equipment and Medical Devices:

*That, by 30 September 2022, the Public Health Agency of Canada provide the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Accounts with a progress report in regard to enforcing the terms and conditions in its contracts with third-party warehousing and logistics service providers, with particular attention given to the provision of timely, accurate, and complete data in order to control the inventory of personal protective equipment and medical devices.*

We are pleased to inform you that this recommendation has been addressed. Lessons learned from early contracts with third-party warehousing and logistics service providers have informed contracting practices. Contracts now include clear service-level expectations about the timelines and activities required for inventory intake and data reporting.

The Public Health Agency of Canada also developed a governance protocol for the long-term warehousing and logistics contracts that outlines how incidents, issues, and disputes are resolved between the third-party logistics provider and the Agency.

Since the long-term contracts were established, the Agency continues to work closely with its third-party warehousing and logistics service providers for the provision of timely, accurate, and complete data to help control the inventory

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of personal protective equipment and medical devices and, if required, will take appropriate actions to enforce the terms and conditions in these contracts.

The Agency continues to give priority to supporting Canada's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and will continue to identify and implement incremental improvements during its ongoing efforts to respond to COVID-19.

We trust that the Committee finds this useful for their work.

Sincerely,



Dr. Harpreet S. Kochhar