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**FROM:** Murray Mullen  
Chairman, CEO and President

**DATE:** April 8, 2020

**RE:** **Coronavirus Action Plan – Update #4**

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WHO SHOULD WE BELIEVE?

During difficult times we start questioning everything! Today this pandemic we now know as COVID-19 has impacted virtually the entire world population and no one knows exactly how this will play out, nor for how long. People are being told to “shelter in place”; stay indoors; and don’t make contact with anyone (Social Distancing). Of course, this is all nonsense because the fact of the matter is this! Government officials in charge have designated Essential Workers exempt from these orders because society needs them to ensure everyone has access to life’s basic needs. These warriors, which is what I call you, cannot be protected from the virus any more than I can, because NONE OF US have immunity to fend it off. And no health care provider, system or Government decree can prevent us from getting COVID-19. Not today and not tomorrow. FACT! It’s simply a matter time before we all get this bug, the same as other flu bugs, colds or viruses. They know this and you need to know this. It is our own immune system that will determine our fate not Government officials. And just so you are not overly alarmed by what I just said please read up on the facts. Very few infected people require hospitalization and the fatality rates are very, very low. So please do not fret. Just be smart until help arrives, which is a vaccine. THIS WILL TAKE TIME. FACT!

This is why I am so frustrated with the politicians. They cannot own up to their own mistakes, never accepting blame and nearly always pretending they have solutions. Today for example they don’t come clean and tell you that this pandemic will take a long time before it totally plays itself out. They also know darn well that if we SHUT EVERYTHING DOWN, close our borders to everything that must be imported to Canada to sustain our communities, the cure would be worse than the virus. So choices are made like asking some of us to take shelter while others are asked to work. Furthermore around the globe most countries do not have the same luxuries we have here in North America. In fact the vast majority of countries do not have anywhere close to the health care system that advanced, some would say privileged, countries are blessed with. As such the orders we are bombarded with cannot apply to the vast majority of the world’s population. How will this work out? Only time will tell I believe.

So what do we make of what we are being told to do? Firstly, I am of the view that those in charge of our health care system were not prepared for a pandemic. There were no testing protocols in place so infected individuals could be identified, isolated from others, and cared for. **[By the way everything I read suggests that testing, let’s call this measuring, is the key to getting back to near normal. It needs to be fast, accurate and readily available.]** There were not enough hospital beds, basic protective gear for hospital staff and care givers were in short supply, and of course ventilators became hard to find. And how about care facilities for the elderly and most vulnerable? These facilities became disaster zones, as evidenced by the disproportionate number of fatalities within the elderly population. But it’s worse – most if not all of the protective gear needed is manufactured in other countries like China. WOW. Who was in charge? Well we all know the answer to this question and that is the Government, the politicians and the bureaucrats. So what do they ask all of us to do to help out the health care system? Let’s shut down most of the economic system all in the name of “flattening the curve”. But it gets even worse because they seem to be taking credit for doing the right thing, whatever this means. Truthfully I am dismayed at their smugness and disingenuous attitude to something they were caught off guard for overseeing. I am not

blaming them for not anticipating this pandemic because these events are rare and come out nowhere very fast. What I am simply stating is that I am frustrated with the way the vast majority of government officials are spreading misinformation and not telling us the real reason we are asked to sacrifice so much for. And that is that they/we need time to get our ducks in a row and minimize the number of cases that could flood the health care system. As for the media, all I can say is that they create fear and sensationalize everything. Totally irresponsible in my opinion. In fact I do not watch any media coverage. I just need the facts.

We are being asked to virtually destroy the economy, kill small businesses right across our country and decimate entrepreneurs. Meanwhile the PUBLIC SECTOR, politicians, government workers, bureaucrats and others associated with the government get the free ride of guaranteed salaries, pension, benefits and the like. How is that for fairness? How can they take credit for such baloney and hypocrisy? Unemployment insurance or the \$2,000 per month for 4 months the Government has offered up will barely cover basic necessities. To me these are fighting words and I am doing everything I can to hold the Politicians accountable. Attached to the memo is an example of the kind of messaging I am sending to our politicians. I will not let up! And no, I have not received a response back from Ms. Elizabeth May, the self-appointed queen of kill Canada's oil and natural gas industry all in the name of Clean Up the World...

Thanks to all of our front-line workers – TODAY'S WARRIORS. YOU ARE THE ONES KEEPING CANADIANS FROM DISASTER. Don't be afraid of the virus. We can't be, otherwise we will lose the war. And let's remember, life is not fair. It is what it is – sometimes awkward and awful but MOST OF THE TIME GOOD!

Sincerely,



***Excerpt from March 27, 2020 e-mail to Ms. Elizabeth May, Member of Parliament.***

*Ms May,*

*I am writing this note to you as a concerned Canadian. This is not something I do on a regular basis, however we do not live in normal times.*

*I don't know what to make of your recent comments regarding [your lack of] support for Canada's oil and natural gas industry! And while I understand you have a deep dislike, distrust and general disregard for this industry I am confused by your comments.*

*I am the CEO of a large public company and over the years I have been forced to lay off over 1,500 of our employees (Canadians by the way) as you and many others implemented so many initiatives and roadblocks to stifle the industry from reaching world markets. Congrats, you did a fantastic job! Now I won't bother you with facts because I am sure you know that the US is the only export market for Canada's oil and natural gas, which is not an enviable position to be in at the best of times. And yes you know that even if Canada does not supply the world with crude oil and/or natural gas other nations simply fill the demand, nations of great environmental stewardship, human rights and other values you place in such high regard here in Canada. Today I am overseeing the suspension of service and closing of business to an industry that has meant so much to our Country and to Canadians. Your response is basically "provide no help", using your standard line of clean renewables will solve everything. Do you really believe this is viable in the short term?*

*Have you ever been in the position where you have had to let long term people know they are no longer employed? Have you ever had the calls from their family members crying, sometimes mad, but really, really scared? This is what we are dealing with today and you say “provide no help!” And you know as well as anyone that the Government cannot provide the help that Canadians will require in the long term UNLESS and without a strong viable economy. You will run out of ammo shortly under the best case scenario.*

*I won't change your mind about the industry and that's fair. But have some empathy for the hard-working families that helped build Canada's oil and natural gas industry. [And] if you really want to know what they are going through “give up your pension”, start over from scratch, get a job at an Amazon warehouse because these are the jobs we are creating today in this great Country.*

*My last point is this. Canada was once a great country. Even in the early days we could fend for ourselves as hunters, gathers and builders. Today we have no industry left that can meet Canada's needs. We are a Service Based Economy. Well you are about to find out what this type of economy is like when the needs must be imported and may not be readily available at the push of a button. The facts are that we are not self-sustainable any longer. Forget our frigging wants, I am speaking about NEEDS – you know those basics like food (most of which is imported), how about pharmaceuticals (we have less than 15 days inventory as I write this message and if the US hits peak need in the weeks to come what are the chances they will SHARE their needs with Canadians?) and yes energy. You know we once bartered, some will say negotiated our sovereignty away to our energy independence with the signing of the original NAFTA. Now we even import crude oil from Saudi Arabia and other OPEC member countries and shut down jobs for Canadians. Brilliant.*

*Canada and Canadians are very vulnerable today. Our debt levels are through the roof and even with new financial and monetary rules being invented seemingly at every downturn, and this will be the worst in our lifetime, there will be an end to this absurdity.*

*We all care about our fellow Canadians, this is not in the DNA of any single political party. But for the sake of Canada the time [for] politics is over.*

*Respectively submitted and generally concerned,*

*Murray Mullen  
CEO  
Mullen Group Ltd.*

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