



## COLLEGE OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS AND ACUPUNCTURISTS OF ONTARIO

### Meeting Highlights

8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Council

July 8, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The Grand Hotel 225 Jarvis Street, Toronto, Ontario.

### **Health Quality Ontario Videos**

Council watched two videos provided by Health Quality Ontario “Tillie goes to the Clinic” and “I am patient and I need to be heard” Ms. De Caprio, Registrar and CEO gave examples of why and how this affects traditional Chinese medicine practitioners and acupuncturists in Ontario in respect to protecting the public interest.

### **Registration Update**

The College has undergone considerable transformation following Proclamation of the TCM Act on April, 1, 2013. March 31, 2014 was the closing date for the grandparented class for which the College received over 700 new applications. This placed considerable strain on College resources and staff who have worked tirelessly, including weekends to process grandparented applications in addition to having to process registration renewals. The College received 3,273 applications and to date have registered 2,793 members. The College has the largest membership in comparison to other regulatory Colleges of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture across Canada. These registration figures undeniably, confirm to the public and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care that the traditional Chinese medicine profession is committed to self-regulation.

### **Information Sessions**

In order to provide outreach to assist Grandparents and General members in understanding their roles, responsibilities, record keeping, ethics and the PLAR process, the Registration Committee and the Quality Assurance Committee, approved the scheduling of a full day information session for registered Grandparented members on July 16, 2014 in English followed by another session on July 21, 2014 for those Grandparented members practicing with a written language plan. Participants attending the sessions will be given six hours of credits for professional development activities. The afternoon session includes the maintenance of patient records, ethics and responsibilities of a regulated health profession will be open to General members as well.

### **Public Relations**

The College has received invitations from Insurance Companies, Government Agencies, Associations and Schools, to clarify the role of the College as a regulatory College, keep them informed of important initiatives and our outreach activities. Our public relations endeavour seeks to engage all of our members, increase inter-professional collaboration with other regulated health professions and maintain open and transparent dialogue with Governments, agencies and Associations in Ontario to ensure public awareness that we regulate the traditional Chinese medicine profession in the public interest. As public confidence continues to grow there will be no doubt that

only our members' of this College are qualified to practice TCM/Acupuncture safely and ethically in the province of Ontario.

### **Doctor Title**

Under the recommendation of the Executive Committee of CTCMPAO, Council directed the Registration Committee to resource the development of a regulation for the creation of a class authorizing the use of the doctor title. The College has continued to research preliminary requirements for a class of registration that will permit Members to use the title doctor in the future. The process of approval by Government depends on a number variables, but most importantly, is based on the government's confidence in the traditional Chinese medicine profession to practice in accordance with provisions of the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991* and *Traditional Chinese Medicine Act, 2006*.

### **Pan-American Games Toronto 2015**

Ms. De Caprio, Registrar and CEO gave an update on the Pan-American Games Toronto 2015, and drew attention to the letter General Counsel had drafted to send to the Pan-American Games, however, noting we are working with MOHLTC and FHRCO as a group and have held off on sending letter in order to work with these groups.

### **Humber College**

Ms. De Caprio advised that Humber College is moving forward with their plan to have a Traditional Chinese Medicine Diploma Program. They have submitted their proposal and our General Counsel have provided feedback to Humber. The College is resourcing any school that contacts the College, providing information and meetings with Staff.

### **Feasibility of Universal Insurance**

Ms. De Caprio advised on the feasibility of universal insurance for practitioners and has taken three meetings with three different companies and she is exploring this further.

### **Office Move to Thornhill, Ontario**

Ms. De Caprio advised that the office move to its new head office location in Thornhill, Ontario will take place in the middle of August, construction has started and we are looking forward to the move. Ms. De Caprio thanked Health Force Ontario for the current office space and thanked staff for all they've done to get ready for the move.

### **Peer Practice Assessment Program**

The Quality Assurance Committee determined that the Peer Practice Assessment program initially should be pilot tested for the first one to two years. The Committee has decided that the percentage of members selected to submit their self-assessment will be .5% in 2014, equaling 15 people.

### **Standards on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse**

The Patient Relations Committee determined that the development of standards on the prevention of sexual abuse was the Committee's first priority and reviewed a sampling of other health regulatory college standards to that end. The Committee will review a template of the policy at its next meeting.

### **Patient Relations Campaign**

The Committee's next priority will be the planning of a public education campaign. The Patient Relations Committee reviewed a sampling of the public education campaigns of other Ontario regulatory health colleges. College communications comply with the RHPA requirements for a website and Public Register. The Committee will engage in discussions regarding the feasibility of a public relations campaign, given the College's resources and priorities in the short and medium term.

### **Bill 70 – Spousal Exemption**

On November 6, 2013, Bill 70, An Act to amend the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991, received Royal Assent and became law. Currently, subsection 1 (3) of the Health Professions Procedural Code, which is Schedule 2 to the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991, sets out a definition of “sexual abuse” that includes certain conduct, behaviour and remarks between a patient and a member of a regulated health profession. A new subsection [1(5)] of the Code provided for an exception where the patient is the member's spouse and the conduct, behaviour or remark does not occur while the member is engaged in the practice of the profession. The exception is only available to a member of a particular health profession if the member's College makes a regulation that adopts the exception. The Committee will discuss Bill 70 at its next meeting.

### **Fitness to Practice Committee Chair**

Phil Schalm was elected Chair of the Fitness to Practice Committee.

### **Next Council Meeting Date**

Monday November 10, 2014 was chosen for the next Council Meeting.