



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

### MEETING OF COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

February 6, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
705-55 Commerce Valley Drive West, Thornhill, ON L3T 7V9

#### **Annual Election of Officers - 2017**

In keeping with the Section 62-80 of the College By-laws the Annual Election of Officers was held at the first regular meeting of Council.

#### **ELECTION OF PRESIDENT**

Elected: Ferne Woolcott

In accordance with the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Acupuncturists of Ontario By-Laws **Ms. Ferne Woolcott** is hereby elected President of the Council of the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Acupuncturists of Ontario to hold office until a successor is duly elected at the first meeting of Council in 2018.

#### **ELECTION OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT**

Elected: Terry Wai Tin Hui

In accordance with the By-laws **Mr. Terry Wai Tin Hui** is hereby elected Vice President of the Council of the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Acupuncturists of Ontario to hold office until a successor is duly elected at the first meeting of Council in 2018.

#### **ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Elected Public Member:** Mr. Henry Maeots

In accordance with the By-laws **Mr. Henry Maeots** is hereby elected to the Executive Committee of the Council of the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Acupuncturists of Ontario to hold office until a successor is duly elected at the first meeting of Council in 2018.

**Elected Professional Members:** Mr. Ming C. Cha and Ms. Christine Lang

In accordance with the By-laws **Mr. Ming C. Cha** and **Ms. Christine Lang** are hereby elected to the Executive Committee of the Council of the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Acupuncturists of Ontario to hold office until a successor is duly elected at the first meeting of Council in 2018.

#### **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCEMENT**

The President presented the roster of committees approved by the Executive Committee.

### **2017-2018 Registration Committee Members**

Public members: Ferne Woolcott, Martial Moreau, Maureen Hopman  
Professional members: Ming C. Cha, Terry Hui, Feng Li Huang

### **2017-2018 Inquiries, Complaints, Reports Committee Members**

Public members: Cal McDonald, Maureen Hopman  
Professional members: Christine Fung, Christine Lang, Yuqi Yang, Xianmin Yui  
Non-Council members: Poney Chiang, Noel Wright

### **2017-2018 Quality Assurance Committee Members**

Public members: Henry Maeots, Cal McDonald, Ferne Woolcott  
Professional members: Christine Fung, Ming C. Cha, Terry Hui, Xianmin Yui

### **2017-2018 Patient Relations Committee Members**

Public members: Martial Moreau, Ferne Woolcott, Henry Maeots  
Professional members: Christine Fung, Christine Lang, Feng Li Huang

### **2017-2018 Discipline Committee Non-Council Members**

Poney Chiang, Noel Wright

## **COMMITTEE CHAIR ELECTIONS**

The following Committee Chairs' appointments were noted:

- Registration Committee: Terry Wai Tin Hui
- Inquiries, Complaints & Reports Committee: Christine Lang
- Quality Assurance Committee: Ming C. Cha
- Patient Relations Committee: Christine Fung
- Discipline Committee: Henry Maeots
- Fitness to Practice Committee: Martial Moreau

## **Consent Agenda**

The following reports were approved by Council via the consent agenda, highlights are provided.

### **Registration Committee Report**

- To ensure Grandparented members have access to the required information and be able to fulfill their obligation to transfer to General Class in due time, the Committee undertook an extensive communication plan that includes, notifications regarding Inactive members being able to complete their PLAR, weekly reminders to all Grandparented members.
- The College continues to hold monthly PLAR workshops with 63 members having attended these workshops since the last Council meeting.
- The College is preparing to launch the Student Class in February 2017. A communications plan has been developed and will include: information provided to schools via email, social media posts, brochures and handouts for students and info sessions for schools and students.
- On October 15, 2016, 205 candidates attempted the written component of the 2016 Pan-Canadian Examination in Ontario. 126 candidates were successful and are eligible for the clinic component in January.

### **Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee (ICRC) Report**

- The College has ten (10) active complaints under review and investigation.
- At the request of the Registrar, the Committee has approved forty (40) active investigations for members of the College, under section 75. (1)(a) of the *Health Procedures Code* of the RHPA.
- To date, the Committee has referred twenty-two (22) matters to the Discipline Committee; there have been seventeen (17) written cautions, nine (9) oral caution, one (1) TCL imposed, two (2) requiring the completion of a Specialized Continuing Education and Remedial Program (SCERP), nine (9) letters of advice, and seventeen (17) decisions to take no action. There have been seven (7) case files that have resulted in more than one disposition. The remaining matters are currently under investigation.

### **Quality Assurance Committee Report**

- The Committee has finalized a revised set of standard record keeping templates that are available in the Record Keeping Policy of the College. The original templates provided a great resource for the membership, and the Committee built on that by revising the templates for better ease of use and clarity. The revised forms will help assist members in complying with the College's Record Keeping Policy by providing them approved samples to use as a reference. The Committee looks forward to providing templates for the membership shortly.
- Call for Peer and Practice Assessors is ongoing and to date the QA Committee has a roster of ten Assessors. Training for all assessors occurred in December 2016 and will be followed by an in-person session in March 2017.
- The Committee has approved and updated the professional development guidelines to reflect a dramatically enhanced user guide for the membership. The college website has been updated to reflect the revised guidelines and members may download an electronic version for their own reference.
- The Committee raised the percentage of members submitting self-assessments from 5% in 2015 to 10% in 2016, resulting in 280 members being randomly chosen and contacted to submit their self-assessment by March 31, 2017.

### **Patient Relations Committee Report**

- The Committee has met and reviewed the recommendations made by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care in regards to the Report *"To Zero: Independent Report of the Minister's Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Patients and the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991."* The Committee is currently working on two of the recommendations: Clarifying the time period after the end of a Patient Provider Relationship and Expanding Funding for Therapy and Counselling.
- The Committee is working on initiatives which will educate the public on the role of the College and patient safety. This will include updates to the website including short videos.

### **Discipline Committee Report**

To date twenty-two (22) matters have been referred to the Discipline Committee.

A discipline hearing was held in January 2017 for Kui Li for allegations of professional misconduct resulting from a complaint from a member of the Public in regards to closure of her practice. Ms. Li failed to provide notice or refund to the complainant, prepaid funds for health services.

Prior to the hearing, Ms. Li's certificate of registration was suspended for administrative reasons that are outside of this formal complaint. For the purposes of the complaint, the Discipline Committee Panel found that the member committed acts of professional misconduct as per the allegations laid out in the Notice of Hearing. The Panel decided to issue the member the following penalty:

- Public reprimand within 3 months of any reinstatement of her certificate of registration with the College,
- Three-months suspension from the date of any reinstatement of her certificate of registration with the College.
- Completion of an ethics program acceptable to the College, within 6 months of the date of reinstatement of her certificate of registration with the College
- Pay costs in the amount of \$3500.00.

A complete Decision and Reasons can be accessed on the College website.

### **Overview of Bill 87**

Council was provided with an overview of Bill 87 and the eighteen proposed amendments to the RHPA by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. The amendments relate to strengthening processes to address sexual abuse complaints, include more supports for victims of sexual abuse, streamline complaints and discipline processes and include more transparency of College matters.

### **OFC Assessment**

Council was provided with an update on the Ontario Fairness Commissioner's (OFC) assessment of the College's Registration processes. The OFC has concluded their review of the College website and provided their questions and request for supporting documentation. The College submitted its response to the OFC and they provided a report in December 2016.

The College is currently preparing a response to the OFC's report, questions and request for evidence. The College will be providing a response and plan to OFC in February 2017. The final assessment report will be finalized in April 2017.

### **Health Canada Consultations**

The College participated in the consultation by Health Canada, Health Produce and Food Branch, Natural and Non-Prescription Health Products Directorate on the proposed further regulation of Natural Health Products, more specifically traditional Chinese Medicinal (TCM) Herbs. The consultation focused on increased regulations that would require companies to provide scientific evidence to support their claims and the intended use. The College responded citing, among other items, concern from a public interest perspective that the proposed regulations should they come into effect would have a financial impact on patients who are users of these products. There would be an impact to the cost of the supplier to provide the research and scientific evidence to support their claims, which would directly increase the cost to practitioners and ultimately the patient. The College has expressed interest in providing further information to Health Canada regarding this issue.

### **Insurance Matter**

Recently the College through its members and the public has become aware there are insurance providers that do not accept acupuncture claims from our registered members, while claims for acupuncture treatment performed by a physician and/or other health care practitioners i.e. RMT, chiropractor etc. are being accepted. With these restrictions in place, patients who seek professional acupuncture treatment are being forced to receive acupuncture services by alternative care providers that do not follow the same treatment principles as registered

professional acupuncturists (R. Ac) or Traditional Chinese Medicine practitioners (R. TCMP). This will have an impact on the health and safety of patients.

The College has written a letter to the Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association (CLHIA) providing them with information on the regulated health profession of Acupuncture so that the insurance industry be more aware of how claims are handled. The CLHIA responded to our letter thanking CTCMPAO for bringing our concerns to them. The College will further correspond to CLHIA to provide further education pertaining to the regulation of practitioners of TCM and acupuncture in Ontario.

### **Consultations**

#### **Alignment of the Renewal Year with the Fiscal Year End**

The alignment of the Renewal Year with the Fiscal Year was approved by Council. More information about this consultation can be found on the website. Notification and information will be provided to the membership regarding this item through email and our website.

The renewal period for 2017-2018 will be from June 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018.

#### **Standard of Practice – Advertising**

The Advertising Standard of Practice was approved by Council. More information about this consultation can be found on the website. Notification and information will be provided to the membership regarding this item through email and our website.

### **Doctor Title**

Council was provided with an update from The Doctor Title Working Group. Council approved the 2017-2018 Doctor Title Working Group Budget.

### **Approval of 2017-2018 Budget**

Council approved the 2017- 2018 Budget.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Council meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2017.