



Highlights of the 13th Meeting of the Transitional Council

The transitional Council held its 13th meeting on March 14, 2011. Fifteen members of the public and the TCM community observed the proceedings.

The transitional Council deliberated on:

The Stages for Transition to a Fully Functioning Health Regulatory College

Karen Cohl, project consultant presented to the Transitional Council the stages which the transitional Council will have to undergo to establish a fully functioning and independent regulatory college under the *Traditional Chinese Medicine Act, 2006* (TCM Act) and the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991* (RHPA).

The framework describes that the transitional Council is currently going through the “Developmental” stage; developing regulations, policies and structure of governance. Depending on the progress of Government review and approval of regulations, the “Registration Preparatory” stage may begin by the end of the year to prepare practitioners for registration. “Regulation” of the profession begins after the Government approves the regulations on registration, professional misconduct and quality assurance and members are registered. With this Transitional phase will be complete and the College will be fully functional once it is administratively and financially independent.

Submission of Proposed Registration Regulation and Professional Misconduct Regulation to the Ministry

The proposed regulations on Registration and Professional Misconduct had already been submitted to the Ministry and are currently being reviewed by the policy analysts.

The transitional Council has received confirmation from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care on the receipt of the draft regulations. The time required by government to approve a regulation varies depending on the complexity of the regulation or amendments requested and scheduling of meetings. The proposed regulation will not be effective until approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council and filed with the Registrar of Regulations.

Safety Program

A Letter of Understanding had already been signed between the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine of B.C. and the college of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Acupuncturists of Ontario, to develop in partnership a Safety Program to prepare the registration applicants. This program may also be used for continuing education, quality assurance and remediation of registered members. A *Request for Proposal* (RFP) will be distributed to invite consultants to develop the program. Consultants will be requested to propose a program that includes the content of a Safety Course for TCMP and Acupuncturists including assessment tools and processes. The RFP will be posted on our website as well as on the website of CTCMA-BC and MERX. Moreover, this RFP will also be sent to consultants and educational institutions.

Jurisprudence Course

The Transitional Council has requested its legal counsel, Mr. Richard Steinecke to start working on the contents of a basic Jurisprudence Course, to prepare the registration applicants.

Canadian Alliance of Regulatory Bodies for TCM Practitioners and Acupuncturists (CARB-ACOR) – Update

At the request of HRSDC, CARB-ACOR is revising its funding proposal with respect to the Pan-Canadian Registration Examinations, and on-line assessment for Canadian and internationally educated registration applicants. The revised proposal will address the foreign-credentials assessment issues.

CARB-ACOR is expecting advisory status on the Canadian Advisory Committee of International Standards Organization (ISO).