

Highlights of the 8th Meeting of the Transitional Council

The transitional Council held its 8th meeting on January 26, 2010. Twenty-one members of the public and the TCM community observed the proceedings.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Loan Agreement

Council approved in principle the revised MOU and Loan Agreement with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Members will be ready to sign the documents pending clarification and negotiation on a number of issues.

Regulations Development Update

Drafting of Registration Regulation

Council received recommendations of the Executive Committee and Registration Committee that there be six classes of certificates of registration:

- Full
- Student
- Inactive
- Temporary
- Grandparented
- Provisional

Under each class of registration, depending on the registrant's primary area of education and experience, he/she will be able to use the protected titles "Acupuncturist" and/or "Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioner".

Council reiterated that acupuncture is integral to traditional Chinese medicine, being one of the techniques used for treatment. It should not be treated as an independent profession. The membership classes will be reflective of the scope of practice and controlled acts defined in sections 3 and 4 of the *Traditional Chinese Medicine Act, 2006*.

Discussions on the grandparenting process, recognition of prior training and experience and exploration of alternatives with regard to the language fluency issue will continue.

Consultation

Council plans to organize information sessions in March to update practitioners and to receive feedback on registration issues, including grandparenting and language fluency.

Drafting of General Regulation

Council continues to consult the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care on policies relating to the draft General Regulation, which includes: Part I: Professional Misconduct; Part II: Conflict of Interest; Part III: Record Keeping; and Part IV: Inspection Program.

Development of Performance Indicators

In November last year, the transitional Council partnered with the Prior Learning and Competency Evaluation and Documentation (PLACED) Program of Ryerson University's G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education to develop performance indicators for the assessment of current TCM practitioners.

Under the guidance of the PLACED consultant, Linda Buschmann, TCM members on Council and from the community drafted the performance indicators on the basis of the "*Entry-Level Occupational Competencies for the Practice of TCM in Canada*" developed by the Canadian Alliance of Regulatory Bodies for TCM Practitioners and Acupuncturists (CARB). The draft entitled "*TCM Competency Profile with Performance*

Indicators” was reviewed and accepted in the meeting with a few amendments. It will be used in the development of prior learning assessment and recognition (PLAR) tools and processes for evaluation of grandparented candidates.

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) Project

Council will soon be inviting consulting teams and educational institutions with proven expertise and experience in PLAR to express interests in developing PLAR tools and processes for the Transitional Council.

Transitional Council Election

The Council elected its officers for the year 2010:

Executive Committee

President	Cedric Cheung
Vice-President	Lynn Bowering
James Fu	Member
Joanne Pritchard-Sobhani	Member
Ian Eng	Member

Committee Appointments

The newly-elected Executive Committee appointed members to Committees:

Registration Committee

Zhao Cheng
Richard Dong
Joanne Pritchard-Sobhani
Henry Maeots
Ruth Pike

Professional Practice/Standards Committee

David Bai
Ian Eng
James Fu
Mary Wu
Elizabeth Wilson

Communications Committee

David Bai
Kristin Bulmer
Richard Dong
Ellen Hanna
Ruth Pike

Finance Committee

Lynn Bowering
Zhao Cheng
James Fu
Sharon Lam
Mary Wu