HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 10TH MEETING OF THE TRANSITIONAL COUNCIL

The transitional Council held its 10th meeting on July 12, 2010. Thirty-six members of the public and the TCM community observed the proceedings.

The transitional Council made the following decisions: Auditor's Report for 2009-2010

Council accepted the Auditor's Report and the audited Statement of Expenditures presented by KPMG for the year ending March 31, 2010.

Work Plan for July - December 2010

Council approved revisions to the work plan and budget, extending deadlines for certain activities and aiming to circulate the draft regulations in August for the 60-day consultation process.

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) Project Update

In May, five consulting teams and educational institutions with proven experience in PLAR expressed their interest in assisting the transitional Council develop PLAR tools and processes to evaluate currently practising traditional Chinese medicine practitioners and acupuncturists applying for registration. Of these five consultant teams, three subsequently submitted proposals to the transitional Council. Subject to Ministry funding approval and reference checks, Council will award the project to the selected team as recommended by the Executive Committee.

Privacy Code

All regulatory health colleges must have in place a Privacy Code in order to operate. Council considered and approved the draft Privacy Code for the transitional Council.

Interprovincial Collaboration

Council noted the activities of the Canadian Alliance of Regulatory Bodies for TCM Practitioners and Acupuncturists (CARB/ACOR-TCMA). At its meeting held in Toronto from May 18-20, 2010, CARB/ACOR-TCMA considered the "Performance Indicators and Assessment/Education Blueprints for TCM Practitioners and Acupuncturists" developed by the consultant team. The document will be revised.

CARB/ACOR-TCMA recommended revisions to the "Entry-Level Occupational Competencies for the Practice of TCM in Canada". The revisions were necessary as the development of the Performance Indicators made some of the previously approved occupational competencies redundant. Council approved the recommended revisions to the Occupational Competencies.

CARB/ACOR-TCMA members agreed to apply for funding from Human Resources Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) to support the development of competencies and performance indicators for the Dr. TCM level, a pan-Canadian registration examination and educational program approval process. Subject to availability of funds, CARB/ACOR-TCMA expects to begin the initiatives in January 2011, anticipating that all projects will be completed in two years.

CARB/ACOR-TCMA will be incorporated as the national forum to promote quality practice in traditional Chinese medicine and labour mobility through collaborative activities. It will serve as a resource to members, governments and the public. Members will work collaboratively on identified issues and act on opportunities that could impact on the regulation, quality, education and training of TCM professionals to ensure public protection.