Highlights of the 16th Meeting of the Transitional Council

The Transitional Council held its 16th meeting November 21, 2011. Nineteen members of the public and the TCM community came to observe the proceedings. Key decisions were made.

Election of New Officers

The Transitional Council was saddened to hear that Cedric Cheung decided to remain on the Executive Committee but not to seek re-election as President of the Transitional Council due to family commitments.

New officers were acclaimed:

President Joanne Pritchard-Sobhani

Vice-President Lynn Bowering Members Cedric Cheung

lan Eng James Fu

Approved Submission of Draft Quality Assurance Regulation

The Transitional Council approved submission to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care the draft Quality Assurance Regulation which was circulated for consultation from July 12 to September 30, 2011.

Approved the 2012-2013 Workplan

The planned activities and programs aim at formally establishing the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Acupuncturists of Ontario by April 1, 2013. Starting early in 2012, the transitional Council will focus on preparing practitioners for registration. It will offer:

- Information sessions on how to prepare for registration
- The two mandatory programs that practitioners must successfully complete before application for registration, namely, the Jurisprudence Course and the Safety Program

Dates for offer of these activities will be posted on the website.

Quality Assurance Program Presentation

The transitional Council was grateful to have Mr. Joel Friedman, Director, Policy and Research, of the College of Chiropractors of Ontario (CCO) presenting on the Quality Assurance Program of the CCO. Mr. Friedman explained the non-punitive nature of the program as reflected in the components "self and peer assessments", the "Professional Portfolio" and CCO's support to members through monitoring and standards setting. CCO is successful in engaging their members in compliance and in public protection.

Professional Incorporation Presentation

Mr. Richard Steinecke, legal counsel, explained that while there are currently no restrictions on business incorporation of current practitioners, when the College is formally established, practitioners who incorporate as businesses will have to incorporate as health profession corporations when they become registered members of the College. All shareholders, officers and directors of the health profession corporation must be registered members of the College. There are rules regarding the naming of the health profession corporation and the corporation cannot carry on any business that is not the practice of traditional Chinese medicine. The College will establish By-Laws on professional incorporation. Practitioners are advised to consult their lawyers for advice.