

## ONTARIO ESTABLISHES NEW COLLEGE OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE

*McGuinty Government Helps Ensure Alternative Health Care Is Safe*

### NEWS

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Ontario has appointed a 15-member transitional council to oversee the practises and services of traditional Chinese medicine practitioners and acupuncturists. The first public meeting of the council was held, today, June 26, 2008.

Established under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Act, 2006, the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine will make traditional Chinese medicine and acupuncture services safer for Ontarians by ensuring that only regulated and qualified practitioners who are accountable to a regulatory body may deliver services. The transitional council is the public's voice in regulating the future development of traditional Chinese medicine in Ontario.

Traditional Chinese medicine is a holistic system of health care that originated in China. Therapies include acupuncture, herbal therapy, tuina massage and therapeutic exercise. Ontario is the second province in Canada to regulate traditional Chinese medicine.

### QUOTES

"Traditional Chinese medicine and acupuncture has a long history of bringing its healing practices to millions of people," said Michael Chan, Minister of Citizenship. "Over a period of time, it has spread beyond the Chinese community and is now part of the broader choice of healing practices available to Ontarians. "

"We are committed to putting public safety first," said Emily Cheung, Registrar of the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine. "This transitional council is the first step to regulating the practice of traditional Chinese medicine which is in the public's best interest."

"In passing the Traditional Chinese Medicine Act and setting up this college the McGuinty government wants to ensure the public has a choice of regulated and qualified practitioners who are accountable to a regulatory body who will define and shape the delivery of services," said Bas Balkissoon, Parliamentary Assistant to David Caplan, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care.

### QUICK FACTS

- TCM is the first new health profession to be regulated in the province since 1991.
- Ontario is the second province (after British Columbia) to regulate traditional Chinese Medicine.
- Legislation to regulate TCM received Royal Assent on December 20, 2006.

## LEARN MORE

Learn more about the [College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Acupuncturists of Ontario](#)

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