

4<sup>th</sup> March, 2009

Rm. 25, 8/F,  
Hing Wan Commercial Building,  
25-27 Parkes Street, Jordan,  
Kowloon

Dear Hon Joseph Lee,

**Developing an Electronic Health Record Sharing Infrastructure in Hong Kong**

I am writing on behalf of The Professional Commons to urge the Panel on Health Services to support the Government's initiative to develop a territory-wide electronic health record (eHR) sharing system.

In our recent policy paper and proposals to Government relating to the Budget, we have been supportive of further deployment of electronic healthcare delivery as a means of positively using technology for the benefits of the citizens as a whole. We agree that the eHR system will play a major role in improving the quality and delivery of care to patients, reducing medical errors and costs of healthcare expenditure.

The eHR system will play a crucial role in further developing Hong Kong as a leading digital city -- consistent with what The Professional Commons has been calling for in our policy proposals -- and meeting the increasing demand for healthcare from the public. Of course, the development for such a major system is complex and will require strict governance and openness to allow public scrutiny and participation. We look forward to working with the Government in the process to come during the development phase.

We look forward to continuing to proactively monitor the development of this important initiative and look forward to seeing the approval of this pivotal infrastructure by the Panel on Health Services and the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council.

Yours sincerely,



Simon Kwong

Chief Operations Officer

The Professional Commons