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July 14, 2018

The Hon. Prof. Joseph Lee Kok Long
Chairperson
Health Services Panel
Legislative Council
Hong Kong SAR

Dear Prof. Lee,

Re: AR of Clinical Psychologist in Hong Kong

Thank you for arranging a time to discuss the AR of key health professions in Hong Kong, including that of Clinical Psychologists.

As a Registered Clinical Psychologist and Social Worker, and one of the Advisors of the Division of Clinical Psychology (DCP) of The Hong Kong Psychological Society (HKPsS), I am delighted that the HK SAR government is taking active actions to facilitate the proper registration of well-trained and qualified professional Clinical Psychologists in Hong Kong. Since the inception of the AR scheme, I have been working very closely with fellow Clinical Psychologists to drive the way forward. Aside from closely following the guidance of Prof. Yeoh, who has been directing this scheme, we have met your good self, key Ministers including Prof. Sophia Chan and Dr. C.K. Law, many Legco Members, as well as professional leaders, including Mr. Chau Hoi Wai of the Hong Kong Council of Social Services, and nursing leaders like Prof. Frances Wong and Dr. Sharron Leung (Encl.), who now serve with me on the Nursing Council.

We are very pleased that all these stakeholders we met concur on the need to upkeep the professional training protocol of Clinical Psychologists, in which on-site supervision by qualified professional Clinical Psychologists is one of the core elements. While it was obvious that the two government subvented MSocSc. Clinical Psychology Degree programs run by The University of Hong

Kong and the Chinese University Hong Kong and meeting international training benchmarks should be the core training model for Hong Kong, the profession should also be inclusive in taking properly trained Clinical Psychologists graduating not from these two programs to join the profession to meet the expanding services needs in Hong Kong.

The DCP of the HKPsS has adhered closely to this direction in preparing for our AR. Aside from successfully completing all the necessary logistic arrangements as required by the Scheme, we have also worked out numerous pathways to include qualified candidates to join the AR on grandfather terms, or upon successful completion of different appropriate top-up pathways. I understand that the DCP has submitted the details of these in their paper (<https://www.legco.gov.hk/yr17-18/chinese/panels/hs/papers/hs20180716cb2-1787-9-c.pdf>) for the Panel's deliberation on July 16, 2018. I helped to work out and I am in full support of such proposals, which provide viable and rational solutions to address the services demand while protecting the public to enjoy proper professional Clinical Psychological Services.

As a leader in a key health profession, and as an experienced Legislative Councilor, I am sure you need no further efforts to be convinced how important it is to upkeep professional training protocol when building up the health care services task force in any community. We count on your expert judgment and leadership to ensure Hong Kong's Clinical Psychological Services are safe and up to standard.

With sincere thanks and best wishes,



Dr. Sandra Tsang, JP
Reg. Clin. Psy., R.S.W, FH.K.Ps.S, FHKPCA
Associate Professor

Encl.

From: "**Wong, Frances [SN]**"

Sent: Wed, 23 May 2018 16:46:53 +0800

To: Sandra Tsang

Subject: Re: Invitation for Open Consultation on Accredited Register Scheme for Clinical Psychologists (Phase 2)

Dear Sandra,

I support the regulation of CP for professional quality and public safety. I think the temporary measure of Accredited Registry Scheme should be transformed to statutory regulation to facilitate proper recognition of education preparation of Clinical Psychologist and governance of CP practice.

All the best with the endeavour!

Frances

Frances Kam Yuet Wong RN PhD FAAN FHKAN (Education & Research)
President, The Hong Kong Academy of Nursing

From: Sharron Leung Shuk Kam <sharronskleung@hkbh.org.hk>

Sent: 24 May 2018 10:42

To: Sandra Tsang

Subject: Re: Re: Invitation for Open Consultation on Accredited Register Scheme for Clinical Psychologists (Phase 2)

Dear Sandra,

I support proper registration of Clinical Psychologist (CP) in HK. A statutory body is desperately needed to govern the quality of practising CPs. It is necessary to give formal recognition to all those who have received proper professional training and met international standard in their practice. It protects public safety to set and monitor requirements of pre-registration CP programmes, and ensure all registered CPs maintain their practices up-to-date and based on the best evidence. CPs are crucial members in the healthcare team and the whole health care system. The general public has the right to be so protected. Other health team members also have the same expectation for all disciplines in the professional team.

Best wishes,
Sharron

Sharron Leung, RN, PhD, FHKAN (Education & Research), FHKAN(Nursing & Healthcare Management)
Council member, Nursing Council of Hong Kong