



Thursday, August 20, 2009

Message from the Chinese Medicine Registration Board of Victoria

On behalf of the Chinese Medicine Registration Board of Victoria I offer congratulations and support to the organisers of the 6th World Congress of Chinese Medicine 2009 to be held in Melbourne.

Only a decade ago it was not certain that the registration of Chinese medicine would become a reality in Victoria. So when the inaugural Chinese Medicine Registration Board of Victoria first met on 20 December 2000, it heralded an historic development in Chinese medicine in Australia.

On 8 May 2009, more than eight years later, the Australian Government has now announced the inclusion of Chinese medicine in the new national registration scheme – from July 2012. Thus, the next chapter soon begins.

With the current emphasis nationally on health sector reform, there is now a substantial opportunity to make a contribution and address the mainstreaming of Chinese medicine within the current context of Australian health sector reform. This is an opportunity for the Chinese medicine profession to take its rightful place in the Australian primary health care system.

Opportunities such as this for inter and intra-professional teamwork and collaboration are important and the congress theme, *The Rise of Chinese Medicine and its Modern Development* is fitting in the current environment.

We look forward to joining participants at this congress in December.

David Halstead
President

