



## By-law of the Canadian Association of Traditional Chinese Medicine & Acupuncture (CATCMA)

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### Section one      **General Rules**

1.1 CATCMA (the corporation) is an organization voluntarily formed by a group of TCM practitioners, acupuncturists and pharmacists, which is a national academic and federally incorporated non-profit organization and does not involve any political, religious and race relations.

1.2 The objects of the corporation are to unite the TCM acupuncture practitioners in order to promote the legislation and specialization of TCM; to obtain legitimate status and maintain legal rights and interests for the field; to popularize and promote knowledge of TCM; to accelerate TCM's recognition among people and local governments at all levels; to serve for the general public's healthiness and to devote on prevention from diseases, therapy and recovery. Within organization, the corporation will ceaselessly hold academic seminars at regular intervals in order to effectively improve members' diagnose skills and academic techniques; regulate medical conducts; strengthen its functions of supervision and guidance and increase the fame of members to the public.

1.3 To protect the interests of all members from being sacrosanct and prevent the patient's public rights and interests from being violated. Also to protect the personal privacy from being misused and prohibit any individual's violation by whatever means.

### Section two      **Members**

2.1. Canadian citizen or permanent resident who has met the qualification can apply the membership. According to the by-law, all members have their rights and their obligations to be fulfilled. **Classes of membership:** There are three kinds of membership: ordinary members, international members and honorary members.

2.2 **Qualifications of the Ordinary membership.** Qualifications are as follows:

2.2.1 Any member graduated from a TCM university or college (academic record is required) could apply for TCM practitioner;

2.2.2 Any member graduated from a medical school had learned TCM acupuncture more than 1000 academic hours (academic record is required) could apply for TCM practitioner. The others who have been working in a TCM acupuncture clinic more than three years can apply for the TCM practitioner;

2.2.3. Any member graduated from CATCMA hosted or approved institutions, learned TCM acupuncture more than 1000 academic hours (academic record is required)

2.2.4. Any acupuncture practitioners recognized by other countries or local governments, an apprentice or inherited from the family that has been practicing as an independent practitioner for more than 3 years;

2.2.6. No sexual assault record and all credentials provided must be authentic.

### **2.3 Qualifications of the international membership**

The application who is non Canadian Citizen or permanent resident can meet with all the qualifications then he/she may apply for an international membership.

### **2.4 Qualifications of the honorary membership**

The committee may confer honorary member status upon any person who has made the special contribution to the Corporation.

### **2.5 The Rights of members.**

2.5.1 Any member shall have the right to vote and the right to be elected.

2.5.2 Any member shall have the right to enjoy the benefits provided by the corporation and to participate in all kinds of academic seminars and activities.

2.5.3 Any member has the right to resign membership at any time by giving notice to the secretary of the corporation, but the member should pay all amount payable to the corporation if he remains any liable for the corporation prior to acceptance of the resignation.

### **2.6 The Obligations of members.**

2.6.1. Any member must comply with the by-law and obey with the leadership of the Executive Committee;

2.6.2. Any member must pay membership fee on schedule;

2.6.3. Any member must perform normal medical practice complied with the code of ethics suggested by the corporation;

2.6.4. Any member must maintain active professional liability and general insurance

2.6.5 Any member must use sterile needle technique to reduce the risk of infections, diseases and transmissions such as Hepatitis B in performing the procedure of Acupuncture.

2.6.6. Any member should have the responsibility for carrying forward the TCM acupuncture, maintaining its honor and the unity of the corporation. Any comments or suggestions can be brought to the Executive Committee or relevant departments of the corporation. The behavior of spreading rumors, defaming or accusing any other members shall not be allowed.

2.6.7. Any member should participate in the activities and academic seminars organized by the corporation in order to obtain academic credits for continuing education purpose required by the executive committee.

## **2.7. Termination of membership.**

The committee may, by a resolution passed by a majority vote, terminate any membership for just cause, but any such member may on payment of all unpaid dues or fees be reinstated automatically as of the date of payment. Membership will be terminated and published on the corporation's website if any of the following conditions are met.

2.7.1 The membership fees are not be paid for two consecutive years.

2.7.2 Any member fails to fulfill his obligations.

2.7.3 Any member seriously violated the rules of the by-law or organized various activities to split out the corporation, which was contrary to the objectives of the corporation.

2.7.4 Violation of code of ethics, sexual harassment or sexual abuse to patients.

## **2.8 Procedure to join the corporation.**

Anyone who intends to join the corporation shall hand in a written application and submit the following documents:

2.8.1 To fill out the application form (Attach two photos without hat).

2.8.2 To provide related original credentials per resume (photocopies will be kept on file).

2.8.3 The membership examination counsel of the corporation will examine and verify the information provided, and submit to the President for approval.

2.8.4 Some of members may be required to attend an assessment.

2.8.5. Approved members shall pay one-time registration fee and annual fees.

2.8.6 The corporation will issue the membership certificate and related documents.

### **Section three Code of Ethics**

3.1 Members must abide by the code of ethics and carry on medical services seriously and carefully with the professional attitude.

3.2 Members must obtain the patient's consent before they start any procedure for the diagnosis and treatment, and make sure they have a complete medical record.

3.3 Members must treat each patient enthusiastically, seriously, responsibly and non-discriminatorily.

3.4 Members shall not cause any harm upon patients with any language, physical or sexual assaults;

3.5 Members must comply with medical ethics and shall not publish any false advertisement.

3.6 Members must be realistic to the patient's conditions and shall not exaggerate the illness, give patients any false expectations, and make unnecessary treatments.

3.7 Members should respect each other and can't make any slander or attack to any other members.

3.8 Members should study continuously to get more knowledge and experience, and improve their medical career levels.

3.9 Members must discipline themselves to comply with the code of ethics and the by-law of the corporation.

### **Section four Standard of Practice**

Members use the essential principles of traditional Chinese medicine to assess patients and promote their health, and prevent and treat common disease, and performing acupuncture.

All members of the association adhere to a strict code of practice.

4.1 Members use appropriate aseptic techniques and infection control procedures in the course of examinations and treatment.

4.2 explain to the patient when and where the Practice might touch the patient and why.

4.3 effectively perform a physical assessment of the patient for the purpose of health promotion,

diagnosis and/or management that is relevant and accurate.

4.4 analyses the information to determine a diagnosis and establish an effective treatment plan.

4.5 adhere to the World Health Organization (WHO) standard for the location of acupuncture points.

4.6 account for every needle that is inserted, removed, and disposed of during treatment.

4.7 take into account all precautions and contradictions of the herbs and formulas recommended to the patient.

**The Board of the Canadian Association of  
Traditional Chinese Medicine & Acupuncture (CATCMA)  
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