

Dr. Eugene Kin Keung Chan

16th August 2005

The Honourable Mr Donald TSANG Yam-kuen
Chief Executive
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region,
5/F, Central Government Offices
Main Wing, Lower Albert Road
Hong Kong

Dear C.E.,

Re: Meeting with Mr. Donald TSANG Yam-kuen

It is my privilege to have a meeting with you today regarding the current development of Dentistry in Hong Kong.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate The HKSAR Government on the successful promotion of Oral Health to the HK citizens in recent years. The efforts and wonderful work done by the Oral Health Education Unit of The Department of Health is much appreciated by both the public & the dental profession. We look forward to the continuous interaction between the government, profession & the public.

The School Dental Care Service, a special care programme that provides dental care to all Hong Kong Primary school children has been very successful with a high participation rate, over 85%, and achieved an oral health status of an international standard. This is a great tribute to your commitment to healthcare.

The dental profession is keen to build on this success and extend it to the secondary school students. We are working closely with The Department of Health on this issue and because of this; we need the support from The Health, Welfare & Food Bureau and The Education & Manpower Bureau. In addition, there is a great demand for dental care for the elderly and we look upon your support.

To facilitate future planning in dental policy for Hong Kong, the establishment of a formal dental advisory channel has now become a practical need. Such a channel will inevitably enhance the communication between the Government and the Dental profession.

In October 2004, the Hong Kong Dental Association had proposed to Professor Lau Siu Kai the introduction of a seat for the dental profession under the functional constituency in the Legislative Council in 2008. The Medical Functional constituency has been representing the dental profession in the Legislative Council since the 1980s and we believe that it is now the appropriate moment for us to contribute directly to the Legislative Council and help serve the Hong Kong people. In addition, we would like to lobby for the proportional representation system for the medical sector of Election Committee for the Chief Executive of HKSAR i.e. dentists are allocated a number of seats according to the percentage of dentists within the medical sector.

We are grateful for your personal interest in the improvement of oral healthcare for the people of Hong Kong. With your permission, I would like to send a copy of this letter to Dr York Y N Chow, Secretary for Health, Welfare & Food

Yours faithfully

(Signed)

Dr Eugene K K Chan
Director, Hong Kong Coalition of Professional Services
President, Hong Kong Dental Association
Vice President, Asia Pacific Dental Federation
Part-time Member, Central Policy Unit