

## INFORMATION RELEASE

### **Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College to Grant Degrees** ***CMCC first private institution in Ontario to offer professional health care degree***

Toronto, April 4, 2005 —

The Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC) is pleased to announce that The Honourable Mary Anne Chambers, Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities has granted consent to CMCC to offer a Doctor of Chiropractic degree program. The degree program will commence with the class entering in August 2005, pursuant to the *Post-secondary Education Choice and Excellence Act, 2000*. This Act, for the first time in Ontario, allowed private institutions to apply for degree granting status. CMCC is honoured to become the first private institution in Ontario to be granted the privilege of offering a professional health care degree under this Act.

The evaluation process under the Post-secondary Educational Quality Assurance Board (PEQAB) was rigorous and included a full organizational review, a program quality review, and two site visitations. Degree granting status is recognition of the quality of CMCC's program. It sets the program within the hierarchy of education in Ontario as comparable to that of other primary contact health care professions, such as medicine, dentistry, and optometry.

We anticipate future graduates will find that the acceptance of credits for application to post graduate university programs will be facilitated. In addition, the status of CMCC within the educational community will be enhanced and it is to be hoped that the institution will have greater input into the development of post secondary educational policy.

This achievement has been the result of the hard work of many people within CMCC but could not have been accomplished without the support of organisations such as the Canadian Chiropractic Protective Association, The Canadian Chiropractic Association, the Ontario Chiropractic Association, and the College of Chiropractors of Ontario.

Established in 1945, CMCC is a fully accredited, limited enrolment, professional educational institution which operates a network of teaching clinics across Toronto. It is recognized as a world leader in chiropractic education and research. CMCC receives no direct government funding and relies on membership, tuition, and donations for support.

-- Dr. Jean Moss, CMCC President

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## **Fact Sheet: CMCC's New Degree Granting Status**

### **When will CMCC begin to grant degrees?**

Degree granting has been awarded by the Ministry to start with the class entering in August 2005.

### **Will CMCC be having discussions with the government to make this retroactive?**

We will be making enquiries in the near future, but at this time, the government's decision does not apply retroactively.

### **Does this change CMCC's funding in any way?**

No. Degree granting status is not tied to funding for accepted institutions. CMCC continues to be a private, not-for-profit educational institution. However, we believe that in the future it will have a positive impact on our faculty's ability to obtain research funding.

### **Does this affect chiropractic patients?**

For chiropractors in the field, CMCC's new degree does not change anything. Chiropractic education has been accredited for many years. It has also been recognized and validated by the *Regulated Health Professions Act* (RHPA) which allowed chiropractors, physicians, dentists, optometrists, and psychologists the Controlled Act of communicating a diagnosis and the right to the title doctor. All chiropractors in Ontario will continue to be governed by the College of Chiropractors of Ontario (CCO) through the Chiropractic Act under the RHPA.

We do hope that degree granting will help patients to more clearly understand the level and quality of chiropractic education.

### **How does this benefit future students?**

Future graduates will find that the degree will facilitate the acceptance of credits if they choose to further their education at the post graduate level.

### **How will this affect me?**

If you are a current student, upon graduating you will receive a Doctor of Chiropractic diploma with all its rights and privileges. Nothing has changed. Similarly, if you are an alumnus, nothing has changed. Simply, the Ontario government through the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities has now formally evaluated and recognized the quality of CMCC's program. This new recognition is effective with the entering class of August 2005.

### **Does this mean tuition will go up? Will you be accepting more students?**

This announcement has no affect on tuition or the number of students that CMCC accepts.