

Good morning, everyone!

My name is Nathalie Xian Yi Yan. It's my privilege and pleasure to be speaking with you this morning. Let me firstly, introduce myself to you. I'm originally from China, and have called Hamilton my home since immigrating to Canada in 2000. My professional background is biochemist as I was educated at Pharmaceutical University of China and Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) as I was carrying on my family business.

The hand out that I'm sharing with you today is one of the many testimonials of patients who have benefited from TCM. This testimonial is from Mr. LeGrow, who is seated with us here today.

There is no question that the government funded healthcare system as we know it today provides a high quality living to Canadians and prolongs life expectancy. However, after seeing patients on a daily basis here in Hamilton for the past fifteen years, I am of the firm opinion that we cannot continue with the status quo. There is definitely a need for improvement and reform to meet the challenges of our future health care system.

Western medical doctors have a pharmaceutical prescription for illness, whereas TCM look at the whole person with a view of preventing illness before it starts and enhancing the wellbeing of people by way of healthy diet, lifestyle, exercise, acupuncture, Chinese medicine. Both modalities of care are effective, and I believe we can serve as a benefit to give Canadians more choices. My vision is to create a TCM hospital in Hamilton, to be a leader and offer the possibility of a quantum leap forward in the quality of life and health care reform in Canada. The unification of these two practices will utilize the proven technique of both disciplines, integrated circumstances, will serve, and protect the public the best and the most.

The opportunity is knocking. Hamilton has a diversified community and industry initiatives. To transform the city's medicinal history, we need collaboration between private and public sectors at all levels of government. Time is ticking. As one of the top professional practitioners of TCM in Canada, I urge you to embrace the opportunity and to support this effort of building a TCM hospital in Hamilton.

I have fifteen years of TCM practical experience in Canada, as well as a background in Biochemistry and Pharmaceuticals. In addition, I have extensive knowledge of law and regulations in both Canada and China of health care. Through my last thirty years of experience in business and education, I've developed relationships with numerous passionate people willing to invest in a TCM hospital in Hamilton. A facility of this nature in Hamilton, will provide a supplement to the present health care system. Our community will benefit twofold; promoting healthcare alternatives, as well as providing a revenue source for the city. Most importantly, Hamilton will become the pioneer city as the birthplace of TCM hospitals in Canada.

I'd like to thank you all so very much for the pleasure and the privilege to speak with you this morning. Your kind attention is greatly appreciated. I hope what I've shared with you, opens your eyes and hearts to the possibilities.