



WCCS

World Congress of Chiropractic Students

www.wccsworldwide.org

info@wccsworldwide.org



@wccschiro

The Global Consciousness of Chiropractic.

Jordanne Buote

Introduction

The World Congress of Chiropractic Students (WCCS) is a student and youth led organization made up of over 30 chapters from different educational institutions worldwide, working to provide an apolitical platform on which chiropractic students and new graduates are able to develop the leadership skills and a deeper understanding of the profession and its place in the wider healthcare industry. One of the objectives of WCCS is to foster global consciousness through education, legislation, and healthcare reform, while aiming to contribute to the general public and other healthcare professionals' understanding of how chiropractors can contribute to the optimization of the health and well-being of our societies. The WCCS is instrumental in promoting cultural diversity and appreciation by allowing its members to gain higher consideration of different world regions, practice networking skills, and understand the impact our profession can have globally.



I've been part of this organization for years, both as a student member, and now, a practicing graduate who also holds the role of President on the Board of Directors. I graduated from Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College in Toronto in June 2019, and have since started my practice in a multidisciplinary setting in Prince Edward Island, Canada. My involvement with the WCCS has sparked an interest in working within both advocacy and regulatory bodies with the objective of our profession attaining cultural authority within our society. Added to this, WCCS has fostered an interest in both public health and health policies, and the intricacies of each in different regions of the world. Through my participation in numerous global events, work with other healthcare student organizations, and policy makers, I have cultivated the ability to put forth proposals, critically analyze policies, and develop public speaking skills. I am beyond grateful that I have been afforded the opportunity to nurture and develop this interest in community and global health care on such an international platform.

This stage was best set through my interactions at the World Health Organization (WHO) during the World Health Assembly (WHA) in 2019, and further during the online assembly in 2020. The WHO was established to promote health and ease the burden of disease globally. The WHA is an assembly of senior health officials concerned by the rapidly increasing burden of

noncommunicable diseases and mental health conditions globally, and its negative influence on health, well-being, and socioeconomic growth. During the 2018 WHA, it was acknowledged that increasing physical activity has the potential to prevent a minimum of 3.2 million noncommunicable disease-related mortalities globally per year, decrease related disability and morbidity, reduce the financial burden on health systems, and increase the number of healthy life years. As such, chiropractors are in the perfect position to make real impact, and real change with the third Sustainable Development Goal: *'Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.'* This is an opportunity to encourage our colleagues away from complacency, and foster the confidence required to mobilize the profession towards becoming leaders in health both in their respective communities, and on an international scale.

There are numerous avenues, both locally and globally, in which chiropractors can create and foster inter-professional relationships to contribute to the achievement of the above goals. In my relatively short time of clinical practice, it has become apparent that professional relationships are key to having the best outcomes for our patients. One actionable avenue open to us involves a grassroots triaging program involving chiropractors, medical doctors, psychologists, and other health care professionals working together to determine what care is best suited to the patient, to avoid unnecessary investigations, multiple visits, and knowledge gaps with the patient.

If we focus on non-communicable, preventative diseases, and select the correct healthcare professional to treat within their area of expertise, it eliminates wasted time and resources. The second avenue involves funnelling these freed up resources to professional education and academic institutions in areas without current healthcare coverage.

This focus on collaborating with educational institutions to implement their own triaging programs serves to assure every facet of health care is covered effectively. Chiropractors are able to educate those in their communities in both a preventative and proactive manner, so that we can minimize as much chronic care as possible. We can also broaden this emphasis on educating the community and take it to social media platforms. This can be as small as a personal Instagram or Twitter account by a local professional, or as large as working with media organizations, such as the UN's Sustainable Development Goals 2030 #ACT4SDGS to educate the public on the importance of physical activity and health. It is through this inter-professional collaboration that we will be able to create lasting change in our societies.

I see the potential in this organization. I see the potential in us, in students, in youth in creating a healthy recovery of our world and our future generations. I also see potential in our working profession, to pave the way for youth participation and in the fight against tokenism and enhancing access to care through innovative strategies.

Youth have an important voice, different generational experiences, and the commitment and energy required to drive change, be receptive to new ideas, and be open to others' opinions.

Jordanne Buote

President, WCCS

BSc. Kinesiology, DC

Charlottetown PEI, Canada

president@wccsworldwide.org

Cite: Buote J. The Global Consciousness of Chiropractic. Asia-Pac Chiropr J. 2021;1.4. URL www.apcj.net/wccs-president-jordanne-april-2021/