

# President's Message



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My dear colleagues,

Greetings!

At our first Council meeting held on 30 June 2019, many issues were discussed and debated. Among the items discussed were our current economy, what MMA can do to cut down on expenses and how we can address the decline in income.

Part of the resolutions presented at our last AGM was to request for our members to approve a proposal on the purchase of property and upgrading works of our current building. The AGM decided that a formal proposal on the purchase of property and upgrading of our building should be prepared and presented at a SGM. We are now in discussions, and once we are ready with the proposal, we will present it by calling for a SGM soon or at our AGM next year.

In my message as President, I wish to highlight a particular need for us to address the growing concern about the negative perception among the public that doctors are out to make money, despite the fact that we have been providing affordable and caring services as doctors in the last many years. We don't need to look very far to confirm that this is the perception of the general public towards our medical fraternity right now.

There are enough negative comments about this appearing frequently on social media platforms. This is a worrying trend as doctors were once regarded as one of the most trustworthy professionals. In 2006, doctors were ranked No.1 in the Business Ethics Institute of Malaysia (BEIM) survey on trust and integrity. Efforts must be made to correct this negative perception and uphold the good image of our profession. Personally, I also feel that while we have a caring attitude towards our patients, it is important for

us to be seen actively playing a role in caring for our communities.

In the near future, with the approval given by council, MMA will launch two Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programmes to promote awareness on organ transplantation and care for elderly. These are two areas that will be given emphasis throughout my term as President. We will coordinate these programmes with present committees in MMA and National agencies to make it a success and we look forward to your support in doing your part.

I wish to laud and appreciate the good work done by our MMA Staff under the supervision of our Chief Operating Officer (COO), Ms Rissa. In appreciation of their hard work, we will be introducing certain benefits to encourage them to continue their good work further.

Lastly, you can look forward to a change in format for the President's message in coming editions of Berita MMA. If you have been reading the Berita regularly, you will notice most of the issues in other sections being repeated in the President's column. Instead of a President's message, we will from the next issue onwards, be featuring a question & answer with the President, where I will answer questions from members. So if you have any pertinent questions, please write in to [president@mma.org.my](mailto:president@mma.org.my) and I will answer them as best as I can.

**Wishing you all  
a Happy Merdeka!  
And to all those celebrating  
their birthdays  
during this month,  
a very happy birthday!**