



We Welcome the Metal Year of the Ox

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After a tumultuous and unsteady year, we welcome the start of the Chinese New Year of the Metal Ox. The Ox is known for its hard work, determination, and endurance. These characteristics are exactly what we need for a world experiencing uncertainty and turmoil caused by a global pandemic, economic downturn and political unrest. Our medical community and those we serve have

also faced dramatic challenges and we embrace the focus and strength of the Ox.

The NCCAOM is inspired by the positive energy of our Diplomates, candidates, and other valued stakeholders. Throughout 2020, we provided up-to-date information and resources. Our collaborative townhalls with the American Society of Acupuncturists (ASA) kept us all connected and informed on COVID-19 updates, safety regulations, SBA loans and legislation. Customer service improved with our new continuing education portal that streamlined and quickened the recertification process for Diplomates.

Although 2021 continues to be challenging, we are hopeful that this new year representing Yin Metal will be marked by resilience and diligence, as many businesses rebuild and return better than ever. The NCCAOM will continue to support our Diplomates and strive for providing the best service and increased efficiencies throughout our processes. Our medicine has truly stood the test of time as it has been used throughout centuries to heal many ailments and restore health through multiple pandemics, wars, and natural disasters. Our practitioners will continue this tradition of restoration and healing to the many lives that have been impacted by the events of this past year.

The community we serve is diverse and representative of many nations, cultures and back-grounds. The racial attacks we are seeing in this country against Asians and other people of color are intolerable. We strongly condemn any acts of hatred or violence, especially against someone's ethnicity, nationality, gender, age, disability, or sexual orientation. It is our hope that the level-headed Ox will bring more acceptance, inclusion and collaboration and greater acts of kindness and servitude.

The NCCAOM wishes you all a healthy and peaceful Year of the Metal Ox as we move towards a more positive and stable environment.