

13 February 2017

Re: OPEN LETTER TO THE CHINESE COMMUNITY

Dear Ms Bernadette King and the Chinese Community

We wish to acknowledge the abovementioned letter and have noted the contents therein. As the matter is following due legal process we are not in a position to comment on any of these allegations but do wish to state that this decision taking by the Hong Ning committee to take action against Sr. Maureen Lai Yat was not done so lightly. It was through many hours of deliberation and discussion, taking into account all aspects of Sr. Maureen's 35 years of commitment and dedicated service to the home. However, due to the extremely serious nature of the reported incidents a thorough investigation by an independent third party was deemed necessary to fully and fairly understand what had transpired.

As you all know, there are always two sides to every story and we would like to urge all community members not to rush to any conclusions before having heard both sides. Please will you allow the committee to continue with this process after which the outcome and findings of such a matter will be advised to you all.

We too want what's best for the home, its residents as well as those that have given their time and effort for the betterment of all. However, we must not all forget, that Hong Ning Home for the aged, is not about one person. It is about the lives of ALL the residents that live there. We need to always put their lives and their wellbeing FIRST. When the committee took on this very difficult role, we understood our promise, our commitment and that perhaps each and every day we might face hard and difficult challenges. We do hope that the community understands this too and hopefully, when the findings of the independent external party are announced, you will all be more informed of the challenge as well as extremely difficult decision faced by our committee.

We are in the process of opening up a discussion with Bernadette initiated by the TCA, whereby a greater understanding of all the ramifications of this situation are considered, and are committed to trying to reach a solution that will be for the benefit of all affected parties involved which includes the community.

We would like to thank you all once again for your patience and assure you that further details around the outcomes will be communicated to you once completed.

Yours sincerely

HONG NING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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