

**OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF IMU COMMUNITY CENTRE
WELCOME SPEECH BY PROF WINNIE CHEE
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6 September 2015, IMU Community Centre, Spark Plaza Salak Park, Kuala Lumpur**

Salam sejahtera

Good morning and welcome to everyone. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to attend this occasion. We are indeed honoured and privileged today to have the Seputeh Member of Parliament, YB Teresa Kok here to launch our Community Centre. Thank you YB Teresa Kok.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

For years, the International Medical University or IMU has had a long history of serving the community through its IMU Cares programme with a mission to serve and develop less privileged communities. Its programmes consist of projects with Ti-Ratana Welfare Home for children and the elderly as well as serving the lower socioeconomic community in Program Pembangunan Rakyat (PPR). One of such project included a full scholarship of RM70,000 granted this year to realize the dream of one of Ti-Ratana's student in becoming a Nurse to serve the community. Through these projects and aspirations, it became apparent that there is a need for quality healthcare services for these communities, resulting in the idea of establishing an IMU Community Centre.

The Centre was established with the vision to provide integrated and quality healthcare services among the community. It was initiated April 2015 as a flagship community project under the leadership of IMU with the support of IMU Cares and IMU Healthcare. We believe that setting up the IMU Community Center around this locality (at Plaza Salak Park) is very appropriate to provide continuous care for the surrounding community. For the establishment of the IMU Community Centre, we are extremely grateful to receive the support and encouragement of YB Teresa Kok.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The IMU Community Centre provides access to quality healthcare services for the community at a nominal fee. These services will be provided by both registered professionals and final year students under strict guidance, an opportunity for IMU to train these students to be competent healthcare professionals. The University also hopes that by doing this, we will also be able to inculcate the value of community service into our students.

At this Community Centre, less-privileged members of the communities will be able to seek treatments at a subsidised fee. Eligible patients of household income less than RM5,000 per month will be able to apply for funding under the University's IMU Cares programme which is supported by Khazanah IHH Healthcare Fund.

Through its integrated services, the community will be able to gain access to chiropractic and Chinese Medicine treatments as well as individualised nutrition and dietary counselling. As the Centre develops, IMU aims to introduce more services that would serve to provide the community with quality evidence-based healthcare. In the near future, the community can look forward to dental health services. As the needs of the community grows, new services, provided by a multi-professional team-based, will be added to better serve this community in a more integrated manner.

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is hoped that the existence of this Community Centre will be of great benefit to the community in terms of quality and accessibility of integrated healthcare services. Since the clinics opened, the feedback from the local community has been very encouraging and we hope that this will continue in the future.

Once again, we would like to thank you for your support and appreciate your presence here at this event.

Thank you.