

DRAFT ORDINANCE CREATING THE CANCER COUNCIL OF TUGUEGARAO CITY AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF

Sponsors: **HON. IMOGEN CLAIRE M. CALLANGAN**
HON. MARC ALDOUS C. BACCAY
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WHEREAS, *Republic Act number 11215 “An Act Institutionalizing a National Integrated Cancer Control Program and Appropriating Funds Therefor” also known as the “National Integrated Cancer Control Act”* was enacted on twenty-third day of July, two thousand eighteen;

WHEREAS, the World Health Assembly passed a Resolution for Cancer prevention and control in the context of an integrated approach that urges governments and World Health Organization (WHO) to accelerate action to achieve the targets specified in the Global Action Plan for the prevention and control of NCDs 2013-2020 and the 2030 United Nations (U N) Agenda for Sustainable Development to reduce premature mortality from cancer;

WHEREAS, the Seventieth World Health Assembly considered the report on cancer prevention and control in the context of an integrated approach and acknowledging such, in 2012, cancer was the second leading cause of death in the world with 8.2 million cancer-related deaths, the majority of which occurred in low-and middle-income countries;

WHEREAS, recognizing that cancer is a leading cause of morbidity globally and a growing public health concern, with the annual number of new cancer cases projected to increase from 14.1 million in 2012 to 21.6 million by 2030;

WHEREAS, from 2021 to 2023, according to Tuguegarao City Persons with Disability Affairs Office (PDAO) records, 175 registered cancer patients and/or survivors in Tuguegarao City availed of the Persons with Disability (PWD) identification card with their consent;

WHEREAS, in order to strengthen and enhance the health system of the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Tuguegarao City, there is a need to establish a dedicated council to address issues related to cancer prevention, awareness, education and support services within the jurisdiction of City;

WHEREAS, with the above-stated law and with the support of the Tuguegarao City Government, it is essential to allocate funds specifically for initiatives aimed at combating breast cancer and supporting those affected by it.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it **ORDAINED** by the Ninth City Council in session assembled to enact the following:

SECTION 1. TITLE. This Ordinance shall be known as **“THE CANCER COUNCIL OF TUGUEGARAO CITY.”**

SECTION 2. CREATION OF CANCER COUNCIL OF TUGUEGARAO CITY.

2.1. The Tuguegarao City Cancer Council is hereby created to serve as the main body responsible for establishing policies, arranging for their implementation, and keeping an eye on concerns raised by cancer patients and/or survivors with the Office of the City Mayor.

2.2. The Tuguegarao City Government, in collaboration with the City Health Office and the Department of Health, will oversee the operations of the Council. The Council is authorized to establish subcommittees, regulations, and procedures as necessary to accomplish its objectives.

SECTION 3. SCOPE AND APPLICATION. This ordinance shall benefit cancer patients and cancer survivors who are residing within the territorial jurisdiction of Tuguegarao City.

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS. The following terms shall be construed and understood when used in this ordinance:

(a) **Cancer** refers to a generic term for a large group of diseases that can affect any part of the body. Other terms used are malignant tumors and neoplasms. One defining feature of cancer is the rapid creation of abnormal cells that grow beyond their usual boundaries, and which can then invade adjoining parts of the body and spread to other organs;

(b) **Cancer Control** refers to the strategies to reduce the incidence, morbidity and mortality and improve the quality of life of cancer patients in a defined population, through the systematic implementation of evidence-based interventions for prevention, early detection, diagnosis, treatment and palliative care;

(c) **Palliative Care** refers to an approach that improves the quality of life of patients and their families facing the problem associated with life-threatening illness, through the prevention and relief of suffering by means of early identification and impeccable assessment and treatment of pain and other problems, physical, psychosocial and spiritual;

(d) **Supportive care** refers to prevention and management of the adverse effects of cancer and its treatment which includes management of physical and psychological symptoms and side effects across the continuum of the cancer experience;

(e) **Treatment** refers to the series of interventions that are aimed at curing the disease and improve the patient's quality of life, such as psychosocial and nutritional support, surgery, radiotherapy, radioisotope therapy, and drug therapy, which includes chemotherapy, hormonotherapy, biotherapeutics, immunotherapy, gene therapy and supportive therapy.

SECTION 5. GENERAL FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL. The following shall be the general functions of the Council classified accordingly:

5.1. CANCER PREVENTION

Develop and implement strategies to reduce the incidence of cancer through education, awareness campaigns, and advocacy for healthy behaviors and lifestyle choices known to lower cancer risk.

5.2. EARLY DETECTION AND SCREENING

Promote the importance of early detection through regular screenings and raising awareness about the signs and symptoms of various types of cancer to facilitate timely diagnosis and treatment.

5.3. SUPPORT SERVICES

Provide support services to individuals affected by cancer, including patients, survivors, caregivers, and their families which may include but not limited to counselling, support groups, financial assistance programs and access to resources for navigating treatment and survivorship.

5.4. RESEARCH FUNDING AND ADVOCACY

Support cancer research through funding initiatives, grants and partnerships with research institutions to advance scientific knowledge, develop new treatments and improve outcomes for cancer patients.

5.5. POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND ADVOCACY

Advocate for public policies and legislation at the local, national and international levels to address cancer-related issues, including access to healthcare, funding for cancer researches and prevention programs and environmental factors impacting cancer risk.

5.6. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

Conduct public education campaigns to raise awareness about cancer prevention, risk factors, treatment options and survivorship issues. This may involve disseminating information through various channels, including media, community events and educational materials.

5.7. COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Collaborate with government agencies, healthcare providers, non-profit organizations, advocacy groups and other stakeholders to leverage resources, share best practices and coordinate efforts in the fight against cancer.

5.8. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engage with communities to address local cancer-related needs and disparities, promote health equity and empower individuals to take proactive steps in cancer prevention and control.

5.9. TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Provide training programs, workshops, and resources for healthcare professionals, volunteers, and community members to enhance their knowledge and skills in cancer prevention, detection, treatment, and support services.

5.10. QUALITY ASSURANCE AND STANDARDS

Set and promote standards of excellence in cancer care, including guidelines for screening, diagnosis, treatment, and supportive care services to ensure quality and consistency in cancer management.

SECTION 6. COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL WITH SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES. The Council shall consist of the following members with their respective functions and duties:

6.1. CHAIRPERSON – City Mayor

The City Mayor shall:

- 6.1.1. Call and preside over meetings;
- 6.1.2. Manage and administer the affairs of the council;
- 6.1.3. Ensure that the decisions and policies of the council are implemented;
- 6.1.4. Sign and represent the council.

6.2 CO-CHAIRPERSON – City Health Office (CHO)

The City Health Office serves as a key partner in the Cancer Council, contributing its expertise and resources to promote cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, and support

services within the community through collaboration, advocacy, and innovation and help advance the Cancer Council's mission to reduce the burden of cancer and improve the health and well-being of residents.

6.3. VICE-CHAIRPERSON - Legislative Chair: Committee on Health and Sanitation

The Legislative Chair of the Committee on Health and Sanitation shall:

6.3.1 Assist the Chairperson in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities, provide assistance as needed to facilitate the effective operation of the Cancer Council;

6.3.2. Assume the responsibilities of the chairperson in his/her absence, including presiding over meetings, making decisions, and representing the Cancer Council as necessary;

6.3.3. Provide support and guidance to council members; help foster a collaborative and inclusive environment that encourages participation, engagement, and contribution to the council's work.

6.4. MEMBERS. The following shall be the members of the Council with their specific functions and responsibilities:

6.4.1. Committee on Women, Children, Family and Gender Relations

The chairperson of the Committee on Women, Children, Family, and Gender Relations plays a crucial role in advancing the Cancer Council's mission to address cancer-related issues with a focus on the unique needs and concerns of women, children, families, and individuals of diverse genders through leadership, advocacy, collaboration, and community engagement, and works to promote equity, access to care, and support for those affected by cancer.

6.4.2. Department of Health (DOH)

The Department of Health plays a central role in supporting Cancer Councils in their efforts to prevent, diagnose, treat, and control cancer and through collaboration, capacity-building, and advocacy, DOH and Cancer Councils shall work together to reduce the burden of cancer and improve the health and well-being of individuals and communities across the country.

6.4.3 Cagayan Valley Medical Center (CVMC)

The Cagayan Valley Medical Center plays a central role in supporting Cancer Councils in their efforts to assist cancer survivors or warriors in their Cancer Center to reduce the burden of cancer and improve the health and well-being of individuals and communities across the country.

6.4.4. City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO)

The City Social Welfare and Development Office plays a vital role in providing essential support services and assistance to individuals and families affected by cancer, by working collaboratively with other stakeholders within the Cancer Council to address the holistic needs of the community.

6.4.5. Persons with Disability Affairs Office (PDAO)

The Persons with Disability Affairs Office plays a vital role in ensuring that individuals with disabilities affected by cancer to have equitable access to support services, resources, and accommodations within the Cancer Council and the broader healthcare system.

Through advocacy, empowerment, and collaboration, the PDAO works to promote the inclusion, dignity, and well-being of individuals with disabilities in the fight against cancer.

6.4.6. Barangay Affairs Office (BAO)

The Barangay Affairs Office plays a critical role in facilitating community engagement, grassroots initiatives, and local-level support services within the Cancer Council, contributing to efforts to prevent, detect, and address cancer within barangays and local communities.

6.4.7. City Information Office (CIO)

The City Information Office shall disseminate accurate information, raise awareness, and mobilize public support for cancer prevention, early detection, and support services through strategic communication and engagement with the community.

6.4.8. Department of Education (DepEd) and Commission on Higher Education (CHED)

The Department of Education and Commission on Higher Education shall promote cancer awareness, prevention, and education among students, teachers, and school communities, contributing to efforts to reduce the burden of cancer and improve public health outcomes. Through curriculum integration, teacher training, school-based programs, and partnerships with stakeholders, the DepEd and CHED help empower young people with the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about their health and well-being.

6.4.9. Tuguegarao Component City Police Station (TCCPS)

The Tuguegarao Component City Police Station shall ensure peace and order and offer security and logistical assistance during cancer awareness events, fundraising activities, and other initiatives organized by the Cancer Council in order to guarantee the well-being of participants and facilitates smooth operations during sizable gatherings.

6.4.10. Advocacy Group

The Advocacy Group shall raise awareness, prevent cancer, and support individuals and communities affected by the disease through various supportive roles and collaborations at the local level and promote community involvement, legislative reform, and public awareness in the fight against cancer. The Advocacy Group will support initiatives to lessen the burden of cancer and enhance outcomes for those impacted by the disease by promoting evidence-based policies, enlisting the public's support, and enable people to take action.

SECTION 7. TERM OF OFFICE. The chairperson, vice-chair and members of the Council shall serve for a period of three years.

SECTION 8. VACANCY. In case of death, permanent disability, resignation of any member or change in the representative of the member organization, the council shall recommend to the Chairperson for the replacement. The said appointment shall be made within a period of thirty days. The new appointee shall only serve the unexpired term of the said member, subject to re-election for another term.

SECTION 9. MEETINGS. The council shall meet every quarter or as often as the need arises at the call of the chairperson. Majority of the council shall constitute a quorum. However, when a decision made by such quorum, it must carry unanimous vote of all members to be valid.

SECTION 10. THE SECRETARIAT. The council shall have the secretariat composed of the CHO coordinator assigned by the CHO Head.

SECTION 11. FUNDING AND APPROPRIATIONS. The funding and appropriations of this Ordinance shall be sourced from the annual budget or any supplemental budget subject to availability of funds.

SECTION 12. ACCOUNTABILITY. All disbursement shall be in accordance with prescribed guidelines subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

SECTION 13. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any part of this Ordinance is held unconstitutional or invalid, the remainders of the ordinance not otherwise declared so shall remain valid and effective.

SECTION 14. REPEALING CLAUSE. All ordinances, rules and regulations, executive orders and portions thereof inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed, amended and/or modified accordingly.

SECTION 15. EFFECTIVITY. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.