

## PRESS RELEASE

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### CARLOS AYRES ELECTED PRESIDENT OF WFC

*Toronto, January 18, 2021:* The Board of Directors announces the appointment of Dr Carlos Ayres DC, of Lima, Peru, as President of the World Federation of Chiropractic (WFC).

Dr Ayres is the first Latin American representative to hold the office of WFC President in its 33-year history.

Dr Ayres has served on the Board of the WFC since 2011. He represents the Latin American region and has previously held the Executive offices of Secretary-Treasurer, Second Vice-President and First Vice-President.

Having initially embarked on pre-med programs in Peru and the U.S., Dr Ayres subsequently learned about chiropractic and changed his major, graduating from New York Chiropractic College in 1981.



*Dr Carlos Ayres*

He explains, “I have never regretted changing my career direction, and feel that I am in the best profession. I always wanted to help people by being part of a health profession. As a chiropractor, I derive great satisfaction from seeing people get better without the use of drugs and surgery.”

Dr Ayres’ early career was spent practicing in the United States, where he established and maintained a clinic in Long Island, New York, specializing in the treatment of Workers’ Compensation and No-Fault road traffic injuries. He subsequently became an Independent Medical Examiner and an expert witness for a number of insurance companies.

In 2002, Dr Ayres moved back to his native country of Peru. With his main office located in the capital city of Lima, he developed a number of offices in the northern and southern parts of Peru. This expanded the influence of chiropractic throughout the country as well as providing opportunities for early career chiropractors to work in Latin America whilst developing their skills and knowledge under the careful guidance of an experienced mentor.

Dr Ayres has been heavily involved in chiropractic leadership in the Latin American region, having been elected treasurer and then president of the Peruvian Chiropractic Association in 2006.

In 2007, a meeting in Panama resulted in a reactivation of the Latin American Chiropractic Federation (FLAQ) and Dr Ayres served two periods as FLAQ President between 2007 and 2012.

Dr Ayres is very clear on his main priorities as he steps into the role of WFC President. "Covid-19 has presented enormous challenges and difficulties in every country where chiropractors serve patients and the public.

The profession has responded magnificently but as we pass grim global milestones in terms of deaths and confirmed infections, it is clear that we need to remain vigilant and resilient in the face of adversity. Working with my colleagues, my aim is for the WFC to provide strong and stable leadership in support of the profession worldwide."

Paying tribute to Immediate Past President Dr Vivian Kil, Dr Ayres commented, "Dr Kil has served as WFC President during a time of great global uncertainty and her leadership during the Covid-19 pandemic has been admirable.

At a time of challenge, Dr Kil has worked diligently as a global ambassador and has improved recognition for chiropractic in a changing health system. I am grateful to have served alongside her on the Board and have benefited greatly from her wise leadership."



*Dr Carlos Ayres speaking at the WFC Assembly, Washington DC, 2017*

He continued, “It is an honor and privilege to represent the Latin American region, now in the office of WFC President. I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead, including the development of legislation, ensuring consistency of education and accreditation and continued promotion of the WFC’s 20 Principles. We’ve been delighted to see our national association members supporting our #BeEPIC campaign advocating evidence-based, people-centered, interprofessional and collaborative chiropractic and we look forward to continuing this successful campaign.”

### **About the WFC**

The World Federation of Chiropractic is a global, not-for-profit, non-governmental organization that serves as the international voice of the chiropractic profession. Its voting members are national associations of chiropractors representing 94 countries in 7 world regions. It is a non-state actor in official relations with the World Health Organization whose mission is to advance awareness, utilization and integration of chiropractic internationally.