



### Planning & Development Division

Sr Prof James Pong PDD Council Chairman

## Meeting with Government Officials

On 6 June, I, together with other HKIS council members, attended a luncheon with the Director and Assistant Directors of the Home Affairs Department (HAD). During this meeting, the Director discussed the issue of how to assist those elderly who did not have much financial resources to carry out maintenance on the buildings where they resided. The HKIS will explore the possibility of forming a task force from the relevant divisions to help the HAD probe into these issues. Since urban renewal and redevelopment, as well as the rehabilitation of buildings, are within the purview of the PDD, I volunteered to join the task force should it form.

On 10 June, I joined HKIS office bearers and divisional chairs for a luncheon with the Secretary for Development, Mr Paul CHAN; the Under Secretary for Development, Mr Eric MA; the Permanent Secretary for Development (Works), Mr HON Chi-keung; and the Permanent Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands), Mr Michael WONG. During the meeting, we briefly discussed the development of Lantau and South Yuen Long, especially their land use and plot ratio issues. The government representatives invited the PDD to maintain dialogue with them so that the planning and future development of these areas can be better implemented.

## Beijing Visit

From 12-14 June, I was in Beijing together with many HKIS council members. This visit not only provided a precious opportunity for me to meet with Mainland government officials, it also enhanced my fellowship with various HKIS council members. Thus, on the afternoon of

20 June, I, together with the Immediate Past President of the PDD, Sr Dr Tony LEUNG, visited the Vice Chairperson and Secretary of the China National Association of Engineer Consultants (CNAEC), Ms TANG Ping. We had a good discussion on our respective roles in China and Hong Kong and plan to hold a joint conference in Beijing during the second half of 2017.



## Visiting my Alma Mater

On 28 May, I was invited, as Chairman of the PDD, to attend a conference at the University of Hong Kong to celebrate the 35th anniversary of Centre of Urban Studies and Urban Planning and Department of Urban Planning and Design. I cherished this occasion to meet those professors who taught me when I studied for my MSc (Urban Planning) there. We had a very good chat about the good old days and discussed the possibilities of the HKIS accrediting more HKU courses.



### Meeting with Sr Tony Tse, the LegCo Member for the Architectural, Surveying, Planning and Landscape Functional Constituency

On 16 June, I was invited to attend a forum at the LegCo Complex by Sr Tony Tse, the Secretary for Development, the Director of Buildings, the Director of Lands, and the Deputy Director of Planning. They had a fruitful discussion with the audience on various hot local issues such as intelligent cities, the enhanced design of elderly and aged homes, and the suggested streamlining of the calculations for premium and submission procedures.



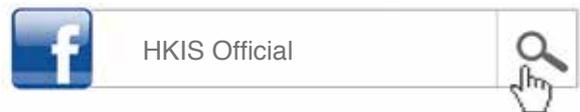
### Upcoming CPD

It is our great pleasure to have Sr Francis Ng Hang Kwong conduct a distinguish CPD, "Land Tenure Arrangements – Past and Present," on 25 July 2016. Francis is our Past President (1999-2000) and currently an adjunct professor at the City University of Hong Kong. As a past deputy director of the Lands Department, he is experienced in Land Tenure Arrangements. Please join us.

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