

## **HKIS Annual Dinner 2017**

### **Message from the President**

Distinguished Guests, Sponsors, Members, Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors' Annual Dinner 2017.

To begin, I would like to thank The Honourable Paul CHAN Mo Po, GBM, GBS, MH, JP, Financial Secretary of the Hong Kong SAR Government, for joining us as our Guest of Honour tonight. I would also like to thank Sr Leung Chun Ying, GBM, GBS, JP, Vice-Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, and Former Chief Executive of the Hong Kong SAR Government, and Past President of the HKIS, for joining the dinner tonight as well.

On behalf of the HKIS and the Organising Committee, I would also like to thank all of you for celebrating this wonderful evening with us.

2017 has been a fruitful year as we have achieved various goals including public image promotion, public policy participation and external collaboration.

The HKIS Long-Term Branding Projects have been officially kicked off with the launch of "Create Your District" Competition 2017. It aimed to provide opportunities for secondary school students to learn more about the role of surveyors in land and property development process. It provided students with the opportunity to unleash their creativity through developing their ideal future cityscapes. There were also workshops and guided tours for students and the public. We are delighted to have received encouraging feedbacks and impressive submissions from students.

The competition was very successful. This interactive campaign has attracted a great deal of positive media coverage. To conclude this year's campaign and congratulate the winners, a public exhibition will be held later this year to showcase the winning entries.

Meanwhile, our members have been quite active in providing feedback to the Government in relation to the built environment. In 2017, we submitted our views on the Starter Homes Pilot Scheme for Hong Kong Residents, the Town Planning Applications System in Hong Kong, the Stamp Duty (Amendment) Bill 2017, the Hong Kong 2030+ initiative, the Fire Services (Amendment) Bill 2016, the Consultancy Study on Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong, the Ownership Proof in the Building

Submission Plan, and the Registered Fire Engineer Scheme.

Apart from sharing our professional opinion with the Government, we have also expressed our views in over 20 articles that were published in columns of local newspapers. These articles have drawn very positive feedbacks and recognition for HKIS. Our spokespersons have actively commented on current issues through media interviews, which resulted in increased media exposures and enhanced public profile of HKIS as a whole.

We continue to seek strategic partnerships with different organizations in China, covering Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Foshan and the Greater Bay Area. We have met with various government and professional bodies that are relevant to the surveying profession and explored opportunities for cooperation.

To explore the opportunities in the Belt and Road countries, also the Qianhai and the Greater Bay Area, our delegates have attended numerous conferences and seminars to actively look for new opportunities, especially with growing enterprises in mainland China. We have already submitted our comments and suggestions to the Government regarding the possible favourable opportunities for surveyors to practise in China's newly-developed areas.

The HKIS has reached a new reciprocal agreement with the Canadian Institute of Quantity Surveyors to supersede the expired agreement. Also, we have signed the Supplementary Reciprocal Agreements with the China Engineering Cost Association (CECA) and the China Institute of Real Estate Appraisers (CIREA) respectively, to kick start the third round of training and assessment. We are proud of our achievements and will continue to maintain our international and regional presence, strengthen connections with our international partners, and uphold our professional standards to maintain and uplift the image of surveyors in Hong Kong.

The HKIS has formed a Government Department Liaison Committee in 2017 in order to work closer with government departments and statutory organizations. The Committee has organized gatherings and meetings to exchange industry insights and promote the Institute's businesses. Additionally, we regularly hold meetings with other professional institutes to exchange views and jointly pursue subjects of common concerns.

It has been a great honour to serve as President of the HKIS. I want to express my

heartfelt gratitude to all Office Bearers, members of the General Council and Executive Committee, the Divisional Councils, members of the Boards, Policy Panels, various Working Committees, Task Forces and Working Groups, and the Secretariat Office for providing great support to build the Institute's vision and plans into reality.

I would also like to express sincere appreciation to the Organising Committee of this wonderful dinner, led by our Vice President, Sr Dr Tony Leung, for its efforts and contributions in making this Annual Dinner a great success.

Last but not least, special thanks goes to all sponsors who have generously supported us. I know that the HKIS will continue to contribute positively to both the profession and the community at large.

Tonight, let us enjoy the food, wine and entertainment together. Please join me in wishing the Institute and its members every success in the years to come. On behalf of the HKIS, I wish you all a wonderful evening! Thank you.