



Land Surveying Division

Sr Dr Conrad Tang LSD Council Chairman

Sharing Session with the Secretary for Development

On the evening of 16 June, Legislator Sr Tony Tse organised a sharing session for over 100 attendees from the Architectural, Surveying, Planning and Landscape constituency. Speakers included the Secretary of Development, Mr Paul Chan, and directors of the Lands, Buildings, and Planning Departments in Room 502 of LegCo headquarters. The 1.5-hour meeting was characterised by vehement enquiries and frank replies, along with intermittent elaborations made by the host. Five land surveyors raised the most questions, which comprised about one-third of all the questions during the sharing session.

The first question from a land surveyor, addressed to Mr Chan, concerned the government's arrangements and policy on smart cities. Mr Chan informed the audience of detailed projects like the smart traffic control and intelligent car-parks in Kowloon East. He confirmed that the Government is now making a blueprint of a smart city, which is now being handled by Mr Nicholas Yang of the Innovation and Technology Bureau. Mr Chan also mentioned that the Development Bureau is now working on the Spatial Data Infrastructure, so a common spatial data platform will be considered. Sr Tse reminded the Secretary and directors to hire more hands for extra government tasks. His comment received the immediate applause of most of the audience.



A smart city relies on free access to well-structured land data. Sr S C Leung followed the supply of government data, which states

that government officials have to change their attitudes and make more government data available to all citizens.



“For future development, the existing 200,000 lots in the New Territories are best available land resource,” Sr Chan Hak remarked. “Thus, the government should consider amending the Land Survey Ordinance so that these land boundaries can be re-established with legal sanction.” The Director of Lands, Ms Bernadette Linn, addressed Sr Chan Hak as “senpai” and explained that the Lands Department had considered the issue. Yet, in practice, it is a complicated legal issue, as even a minor change to a land boundary law may trigger many situations that need to be addressed. Ms Linn said the amendment was not considered an imminent task.

Sr Johnny Lau pointed out that many Chinese cities have implemented BeiDou satellite positioning, wi-fi, and GIS systems as basic elements in their smart city projects. The Secretary remarked that China has moved ahead of Hong Kong, so the latter's mission, to be led by the Innovation and Technology Bureau, is to catch up. The Development Bureau will continue to work on the common standard of spatial data.

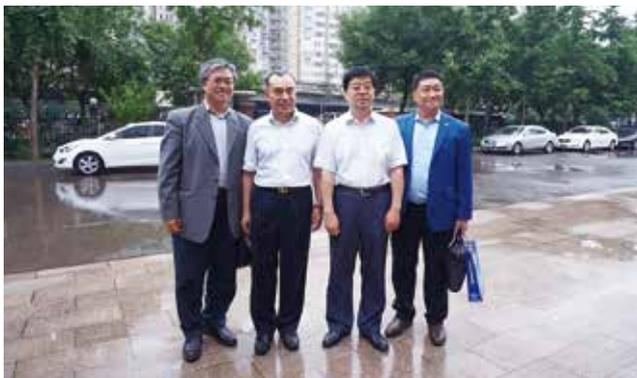
Sr Lam Lit Yin, representing the engineering surveying sector, brought up the issue of as-built surveys. He pointed out that too many public construction projects had performed no real as-built survey. Many so-called as-built plans were just engineering design plans. A smart city's as-built BIM is critical. Hong Kong cannot afford such a mistake again. The Secretary pondered Sr Lam's point and replied that the Works Branch will consider this issue.

International Land Measurement Standard (ILMS) Coalition

The HKIS has been invited to join the ILMS. This international surveying institutional coalition works within a land information framework that analyses the systemic elements of land rights, land transactions, and exchange processes. The HKIS will join this coalition because its General Practice, Planning Development, and Land Surveying Divisions perform similar work to that of the ILMS.

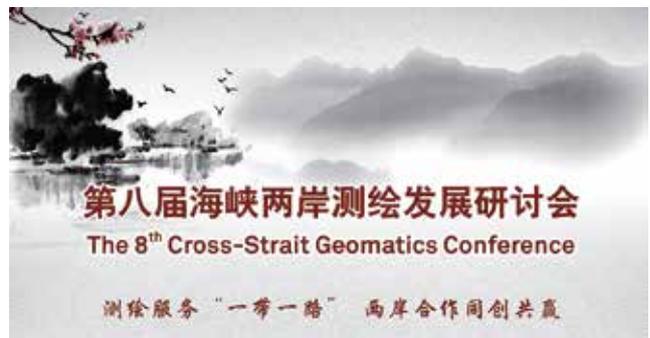
HKIS Visit to the National Surveying Bureau in Beijing

President Sr C K Lau led HKIS delegates, including the LSD's Sr Koo Tak-ming and Sr Olivia Chiu, on a visit to Beijing from 12-14 June. Sr Koo brought back news stating that the HKIS expects to strengthen its connections with the National Administration of Surveying, Mapping and Geoinformation Bureau and to support and participate in international surveying activities conducted by the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing and the International Federation of Surveyors. The mutual recognition of registered land surveyors by both sides should be enhanced. Also, they wish to meet more land surveyors in the coming



8th Cross-Strait Geomatics Conference. Sr Koo and Sr Chiu exchanged development information with their Mainland colleagues on UAVs, BIM, Common Spatial Data Infrastructure, and big data on property.

The 8th Cross-Strait Geomatics Conference



This conference will be held in Xiamen, Fujian, from 23-25 November 2016. For details, please visit: <http://www.2016cgc.com>.

Talk on Adverse Possession

Sr Dr Conrad Tang, Chairman of the LSD, was invited by the Lands Department to deliver a talk on adverse possession from the perspective of a land surveyor. During the talk, Sr Dr Tang explained the evolution of adverse possession in Hong Kong. Moreover, land surveyors' concern over adverse possession and recommendations in the "Report on Adverse Possession," published by the Law Reform Commission in October 2014, were also discussed.

