



Planning & Development Division
Sr Prof James Pong PDD Council Chairman

Media Lunch

On 8 February, I disseminated the theme for PDD 2017 to media friends. It was twofold: 1) to continue striving for our PDD graduates to become eligible for graduate posts offered by the Planning, Lands, and Buildings Departments and 2) the Town Planning Board should have a PDD surveyor as her member through HKIS nomination.



HKIS Career Expo 2017

On 25 February, I joined President Sr Thomas Ho and other divisional chairs to introduce to the public, particularly those students ready to take the DSE examinations, the scope of a PDD surveyor's work. After the 30-minute career talk, some secondary school students approached us individually to inquire about how they could enroll in a surveying degree course and become surveyors in Hong Kong, as well as the career prospects for PDD surveyors. I was happy to answer all their questions and gave them copies of my name card so that they could approach me again if they have further questions.



Cover Story on Underground Space Development

Further to the consultation forum on underground space development on 19 January, which I reported in my January Chairman's Message, I was interviewed by telephone to get my views on and observations of the viability and challenges of the proposed underground space development. The interviewer interviewed very senior officials from the Planning Development and Civil Engineering & Development Departments and composed a "cover story" in this issue.

For the Career Expo, two YSG members, Sr Kendy Cheuk (GPD) and Sr Victor Ng (PDD), designed a game for the HKIS booth to promote GP and PD surveyors in property development. The game introduced OZP zones, height restrictions, and its development potential. The response from visitors was positive.



CPD Events

On 16 February, we invited Mr Eric C M Lee to deliver a CPD talk and share his experiences in revitalisation scheme projects. Mr Lee was a specialist architectural consultant for many revitalised projects. During the event, some valuable information and photos were revealed

such as the old LegCo Building and Blue House cluster.

Over 100 members attended the event and all sincerely thanked C M Lee for his enlightening talk.



On 18 February, Mr Eric Lee led a heritage site visit to the Blue House cluster, Wanchai. The Blue House is a Grade 1 historic building.

Both the project's architect and contractor joined this visit, which allowed participants to learn the background of its community involvement during the consultation period and the site's constraints throughout its alteration and addition stages. It was a full event and everyone enjoyed the moment.



On 25 February, Mr Eric Lee led a second heritage site visit to Ma On Shan Iron Mine, which also attracted a full house. We can say it is a memorable and advanced site visit in that the weather was extremely cold in there.

On a misty, freezing, and rainy morning, we hiked to the old mine entrance. After that, we visited the 恩青營一鞍山探索館, which was listed as a Grade 3 historic building in 2016. Inside the camp was an iron mining history exhibition hall.



Upcoming CPDs

At the last PDD council meeting, the council discussed the 2017 CPD plan and agreed to continue organising more high-quality CPD events, especially some joint CPDs with YSG.

- We have invited a Chinese background developer to conduct a CPD talk on land sales and bids during the second quarter of 2017. We expect this to be a hot topic after a new government land sale record was announced (鴨脷洲新地王) recently.
- In May, we will hold a CPD talk on the technology of aerial photography (航拍) followed by a practice session.
- In July or August, we will hold a joint CPD with YSG – a one-day study tour to Macau to view a completed casino/hotel project in the morning, followed by a local heritage site visit in the afternoon.

Details of the above CPDs will be posted to members later.