



Building Surveying Division
Sr Billy Wong BSD Council Chairman

Students and Probationers

Practical Task and Final Assessment

The BSD's APC Final Assessments (FAs) are held monthly. Sixteen candidates attended their FAs in January and February, with nine passing. Given the current COVID-19 pandemic, no FA was held in March, but the BSD is preparing to resume it in April and May. The Committee also seeks solutions to shorten the queuing time for FAs significantly throughout this council year.

Before CNY, the BSD issued a notice to all BS probationers concerning the administration of the coming May Practical Task (PT). As a result, 45 probationers registered for it. In view of current pandemic situation, PT will be deferred to 12-15 August. Please refer to announcement to BS Probationers for details.

CPDs and PQSLs

The BSD has set a tentative CPD and PQSL schedule. The first CPD in 2020 was originally scheduled for 24 February. It is a case-sharing of the fire engineering approach delivered by a practicing fire engineer. Because the SLC was closed in February and March to avoid crowd gatherings, all CPD talks have been rescheduled and the speakers have been notified of the rescheduled dates and the possibility of conducting their talks online. The first confirmed online talk is a PQSL on the preparations for a PT jointly-conducted by BoE Chair Sr Alan SIN and BSDEC member Sr Peter DY tentatively in May 2020.

BSD Scholarship 2019 and Eddie Lee Memorial Education Foundation (ELMEF) APC Scholarship 2019

The award presentation ceremony for both of the above scholarships was originally scheduled for 12 February. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak and the suspension of class for secondary schools, the ceremony was postponed. The rescheduled date may have to come in the summer after classes resume. There are seven and eight winners of the

BSD Scholarship and ELMEF Scholarship 2019, respectively. The former is awarded to secondary school students who achieved top scores on the BSD's offered assignments and were nominated by their principals, while the latter is offered to BS probationers who achieved top scores in the APC.

University Visits

The BSD scheduled visits to three local universities to meet with current surveying students during the first quarter of 2020. The visit to HKU was conducted on 23 January, but those to PolyU and CityU, originally scheduled for February, were postponed due to the suspension of classes. Instead, the BSD shall arrange for online briefings with the students once it has confirmed the dates.

Our Community

Facemask Donations to the Needy Programme

As reported last month, the Building Surveying Volunteers team initiated a facemask donation campaign with members of all divisions and YSG. It received over 12,000 masks and 1,500 hand sanitisers. All collected masks were donated to the SKH St Stephen's Church and Hong Kong Society for the Deaf to distribute to the needy. On 14 March, our volunteers teamed up with St Stephen's Church to distribute masks and hand sanitisers to street cleaners and the elderly in Western District.



DIVISIONAL NEWS & ACTIVITIES

組別簡訊



Thank you message received for the donation campaign.



BSD Channel (BSD 頻道)

To celebrate its 35th anniversary, the BSD produced six videos with six themes (初心、打拚、開拓、連繫、傳承、追夢) to present its history and aspirations for the future.

Please scan the QR code below to watch Episode 4: 連繫.



- Episode 1: 初心 ✓
- Episode 2: 打拚 (Go the Extra Mile) ✓
- Episode 3: 開拓 (Exploration of Opportunities) ✓
- Episode 4: 連繫**

Community Links (連繫)

Keen on Public Welfare and Social Connection Sr CHAN Wah-wai Promulgates Volunteer Teams to Serve the Community

Veteran surveyor David CHAN Wah-wai has done much for the community since the 1990s by providing professional advice on incidents of relevance to the public: SARS, the building collapse on Ma Tau Wai Road, rooftop greening, etc. David actively forms volunteer teams of BSD members to serve the community. To adhere to his belief of "serving all with and for the same good deeds" ("For thy practice, for thy followers, and ultimately for the community" in Chinese), he hopes to use his expertise to engage all of Hong Kong.

Since the canopy collapsed at the Wearbest Building on Ma Tau Wai Road in 1990, David has been interviewed by the media in his capacity as BSD Chairman. As a result of his honest analyses, he became a media favourite. Subsequently, he spoke via different media platforms and gradually became a household name. He admitted that, "before each interview, I spent a lot of

time preparing, as it is important to see things from the public's perspective. I use simple words to explain very complicated professional terms, stay away from using different language terms, and avoid playing to the crowd. It also took me quite some time to get used to the different interview modes."

David remembers well the live mid-2004 special TV broadcast of the improvements made to the pipelines inside Block E of Amoy Gardens in the wake of SARS. The programme's content was hands-on (i.e., "as you like it"). Because it was live with many last-minute changes, David expected his airtime to shorten from 12 to five minutes. Once the broadcast began, his airtime was again shortened to less than three minutes. Such changes tested his on-the-spot adaptability. David wryly recalled that when the programme finished, his mind was completely blank. Now he cannot remember what he said while on the air. The broadcast was an interesting experience for him.

Many times David has formed and led BSD volunteer teams to join different community service events. He believes that any effort needs an unbroken link from superiors to subordinates, between peers, among different professional groups, and ultimately within the community. "The most ideal case is to extend the professionalism of building surveyors to other work areas so that all of society can benefit."

The most memorable event for David was none other than the improvements to the aforementioned drainage downpipes inside Block E of Amoy Gardens after SARS. He and some fellow BSD members divided their tasks and went to the site to investigate, write reports, and make recommendations on how to rectify the problem. After the appropriate authority approved the suggested drainpipe replacement design, David and company started to invite tenders and supervised the work onsite until its completion. He summarised: "To keep the virus from spreading, the new design ensures that the drainpipes of wash basins, bathtubs, shower cubicles, and floors of each residence are connected to the same U-shaped water trap, so as to prevent the putrid air of the main drainpipes from entering the premises." The new design serves as a reference for interior home decorators and designers of future buildings. It definitely has a positive impact on the building industry.

Besides SARS, David was deeply affected by the building collapse on Ma Tau Wai Road. He remembered that residents in the neighbourhood were hysterical because they worried that their homes could be next. Therefore, he and his BSD team took the initiative to survey the area's dilapidated buildings and provide professional suggestions to alleviate the concerns of residents. "I hope that in the future, the BSD will be even more proactive in sharing its knowledge with the public on how to repair and maintain buildings correctly, so as to prevent another disaster of this magnitude from happening again."

#Stay tuned for Episode 5

ANNOUNCEMENT

Notice to BS Probationers Assessment of Professional Competence Deferral of the May Practical Task 2020

In order to avoid the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the scheduled May Practical Task 2020 will be deferred for 3 months. All applications to undertake the May Practical Task 2020 which have been approved will be admitted to the August Practical Task 2020. Probationers who are otherwise eligible may also apply within the relevant period for application.

Date of the August exercise and the relevant period for applications

<u>Date of August Practical Task 2020</u>	<u>Relevant period for applications</u>
12-15 August 2020	1-5 June 2020

Eligibility of APC candidates to undertake the Practical Task

First applications

2 years APC training	After having satisfactorily filed in 2 consecutive SAR
3 years APC training	After having satisfactorily filed in 3 consecutive SAR

Re-applications

After having satisfactorily filed in at least one supplementary SAR after previous attempt
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Submission of applications

Applications already approved to undertake the May Practical Task 2020 will be carried over and need not be re-submitted.

First applications should be made on Form APC4/BS together with the prescribed fee.

Re-applications should be made on Form APC4R/BS together with the prescribed fee.

Re-applications received more than 24 months of the previous attempt will not be accepted.

All applications must be received by the HKIS Office within the relevant period for applications. Premature or belated applications will be rejected.

1 April 2020