



Sr Edwin TANG

I am delighted to report it has been a busy start to 2021 despite the on-going challenges of COVID-19, and since I last wrote the Institute has moved forward on a diverse range of activities.

Maintaining Hong Kong's built heritage

Surveyors have always been committed to built conservation and are keen contributors to the issue in line with the Institute's advisory role on policy formulation. With the recent discovery of the century-old structures of the underground reservoir at Bishop Hill in Sham Shui Po, we provided four recommendations to the government in our press release at the end of December 2020 to enhance the conservation of these cavernous structures as well as other water servicing facilities in the future.

In my capacity as President of HKIS, I also attended a press conference held by Legislative Councillor Sr Tony Tse Wai-chuen, the representative for the Architectural, Surveying, Planning and Landscape functional constituency, which saw a further 10 recommendations related to Bishop Hill put forward.

Drawing from this incident, I believe that the current approach to conservation might need to be reconsidered. For instance, a thorough review of all buildings and structures over a certain age could be undertaken; and more conservation and revitalisation models explored

in addition to the existing Revitalising Historic Buildings through Partnership Scheme with non-profit organisations, in operation since 2008.

On a practical level, surveyors in different branches of the profession can contribute their expertise on building condition surveys, building conservation, project appraisal, lease matters, contract procurement, property and facility management, and more, to the conservation and revitalisation of historical structures or older landmarks.

The Institute looks forward to future government and community collaborations in this important area.

Meanwhile, our commitment to raising public awareness of built heritage conservation continues apace. In 2019, the Institute launched our Maintenance and Appreciation of Historical Buildings initiative with a grant from the Built Heritage Conservation Fund under the Development Bureau. The drive has not only highlighted the maintenance challenges facing historical buildings in Hong Kong, but also the craftsmanship and techniques that enable their conservation, and the vital need to document these skills. Following our related Creativity Competition and successful awards ceremony and exhibition at The Mills late last year, some government departments approached us about displaying the winning entries in their premises. Due to COVID-19, a number of further activities planned for the project have now had to be held back, but we hope to complete them within this year.

Revitalising old industrial districts

Moving from past to future built environments, the Chief Executive's 2020 Policy Address stated the need to expedite the revitalisation of former industrial districts with a pilot scheme for charging land premiums at "standard rates".

Assessment methods for land premiums is an area where the Institute has regularly put forward improvements to the government. In January, we publicly released our latest proposals, with six recommendations ranging from establishing a clear standard amount for reference by stakeholders to ways to open up more space for development.

HKIS retreat: healthy buildings and succession planning

The month also brought our Institute's annual retreat – this year, via Zoom – during which General Council members had a fruitful exchange of views on several key strategic issues. One highly topical area of concern was the promotion of healthy buildings and built environment as ways to mitigate risks from epidemics, the impact this might have on surveying practices, as well as proposals and advice to the government and public.

Under discussion for the Institute's own development was greater engagement of young surveyors in our ventures. Many have already been actively involved in organising and participating in activities and contests and in reaching out to students in secondary schools and universities. We are now seeking to encourage them to step up into other decision-making roles. In addition to serving on HKIS committees and panels, we will strive to nominate our younger members for government's various advisory committees where appropriate. In this way, HKIS will not only be able to energise itself but maintain a strong presence for the profession and our contribution within the community.

Reflections on HKIS's future accommodation also continued. Since the "new normal" of online interaction during the pandemic, we have to consider how this will affect our space requirements. In this connection, it is also vital for the Institute to have a comprehensive

e-platform for serving and communicating with members effectively as well as reducing administrative workload and physical storage area. Other "house-keeping" issues on the retreat agenda included a rethink of governance as well as a review and the consolidation of various committees, policy panels, working groups, and task forces.

Welcoming the Year of the Ox

Due to COVID-19, I am sorry to let you know we will not be holding our popular Create Your District Competition in 2021. That said, the activities and areas of focus we do plan to undertake over the next 12 months will be publicly announced at a media briefing shortly after Chinese New Year. The occasion, we hope, will be held in-person, with proper and social distancing and hygiene measures fully in place. The gathering will provide the opportunity to introduce our incoming spokespeople in different divisions as well as start the Year of the Ox in a welcoming and productive way.

With heartfelt good wishes to you all for a prosperous and healthy year ahead!

Sr Edwin Tang
President

2021年伊始，香港測量師學會已經進入忙碌而充實的一年。雖然疫情帶來挑戰，我仍然欣喜地向大家報告，學會已經如常開展一系列的活動。

香港歷史建築保育

測量師向來對歷史建築的保育不遺餘力，香港測量師學會更在政策釐訂方面扮演重要的諮詢角色。近月，有百年歷史的深水埗主教山蓄水池引起公眾關注，我們為此於2020年12月底發布新聞稿，向政府提出四項建議，以加強保育這些洞穴構築物以及其他水務設施。

作為香港測量師學會會長，我亦出席了立法會建築、測量、都市規劃及園境界功能界別議員謝偉銓測量師發起的新聞發布會，我們在會上就主教山提出另外十項建議。

歸納有關經驗，我認為我們需要再思考現行的保育方法是否需要有所調整，例如所有建築物與構築物達到一定年月後，均應該進行全面審視。現行的活化歷史建築伙伴計劃始於 2008 年，由非牟利機構參與；然而除了這個計劃以外，我們還可以探討更多其他保育及活化模式。

具體來說，不同組別的測量師都可對保育及活化作出實質貢獻，從建築狀況測量、建築保育、項目評估、土地契約事宜、合同採購以至物業及設施管理等等，幫助保育與活化歷史建築及有一定年期的地標。學會期望跟政府和社區加強合作，共同為這個重要任務而努力。

與此同時，我們繼續提升公眾對歷史建築保育的意識。2019 年，學會獲得發展局保育歷史建築基金資助，推出「賞·惜·舊築跡」系列活動。活動不但關注香港歷史建築面臨的挑戰，更特別注重保育工藝與技巧、以及有關專業知識的存檔與承傳。其中「賞·惜·舊築跡」創作比賽去年底圓滿結束，頒獎典禮及公眾展覽同於南豐紗廠舉行。及後一些政府部門主動跟我們學會聯絡，表示希望在其場地展出得獎作品。可惜由於疫情關係，部分活動暫時未能舉行；我們期望活動能於年內完成。

活化舊有工業區

保育固然重要，未來的建設環境同樣不容忽視。特首於 2020 年施政報告提出加快活化老舊工業區，並推行以「標準金額」徵收補價的先導計劃。香港測量師學會一直積極向政府提出評估徵收補價的方法；我們於一月公布六大建議，從制定清晰標準金額以供持份者參考，至開放更多空間予持份者不等。

學會退修會：改善環境 協助抗疫 培育後進

學會於一月舉行年度退修會，今年透過 Zoom 於網上虛擬舉行，期間理事會成員就重要策略性議

題交換意見。其中一個重點與減低疫症風險有關，我們期望透過保持建築物與建設環境的健康衛生，達到抗疫之目的。我們同時探討抗疫與環境議題在測量行業中的重要性，以及向當局與公眾提出有關建議。

就學會發展方面，我們在會上探討如何鼓勵年輕一代發揮才能。現時，不少年輕測量師正積極籌劃及參與學會的活動與比賽，並向大學及中學學生推廣學會活動。由此，我們希望進一步提拔新一代的測量師擔任領導決策工作，讓他們成為學會委員會與政策小組的一分子，並適切地提名他們加入政府的諮詢委員會等等。這樣不但能令學會倍添朝氣，更能夠為行業爭取更重要位置，同時貢獻社會。

另外，我們繼續考慮學會辦公室的未來狀況。由於疫症的關係，網上交流已經成為新常態；我們需要考慮新常態對空間使用的影響。再者，學會應透過週全的網上平台改善對會員的服務及增強溝通，同時減少行政工作與貯物空間。其他會內事務還包括重新思考管治議題，檢討與重構各委員會、政策小組、工作小組與專責小組的組成等等。

迎接牛年來臨

受疫情所限，我們 2021 年將停辦過往廣受歡迎的地區發展創作比賽。雖然如此，我們將於農曆新年後的傳媒簡報會公布未來 12 個月的發展重點，讓新聞從業員親臨實體聚會，配以適當的社交距離與衛生措施。我們將介紹各個組別的發言人以及未來動向，共同迎接新一年的到來。

衷心祝福各位，新年進步、萬事如意！

會長
鄧海坤測量師