



Sr Edwin TANG

Time seems to be flying this year and we have already passed the Spring Equinox and are rapidly heading towards Easter.

This means that the future location for the HKIS Office premises is moving to the forefront of practical internal matters to be settled, given that our tenancy at the Wing On Centre expires in December 2021.

Progress on HKIS Office Accommodation

The Task Force on HKIS Office Accommodation has been hard at work on this matter. To gain comparative insights into the state of the office rental market, members of the task force devoted a considerable number of hours to visiting 11 different sites in Kowloon and Hong Kong between January and March.

I joined them on nearly all occasions, with everyone finding much of interest for subsequent discussions. Criteria for assessment included costs in addition to rent, proximity to an MTR station, the operational benefits of higher headroom and raised flooring for wiring and cables, and a location that strikes a balance between a reasonable rent and HKIS's image.

In parallel, task force members approached the present landlord to ascertain the owner's views on renewing the current tenancy.

Annual Subscriptions and Donations

On other membership matters, we are moving forward with the technology enhancement of our internal IT systems to enable online payment for annual subscription as well as application fees. Unfortunately, the system will not be ready to "go live" for online subscription payments this year. Members should thus continue to make payments by cheque to the HKIS or through our affinity credit cards.

However, we are anticipating that the option of settling annual subscription fees using the more convenient online format will be available from 2022. Later, we hope to extend this and to synchronise all fee payments on the same platform.

Besides paying their annual subscription, I would also like to encourage members to make a donation to the HKIS Charitable Foundation. The Foundation is an approved charitable institution and exempt from tax under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance. It was incorporated in April 2014 and established to provide assistance and financial support to those in need or experiencing hardship; to organise, support, promote, and engage in non-profit work and activities for the purpose of assisting the underprivileged, elderly, social disadvantaged, and other vulnerable groups in the community; for the advancement of education and relief of poverty; and for emergency relief projects, among others.

Visit by the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government

March also brought a visit to the HKIS office by representatives from the Liaison Office's Department of Educational, Scientific and Technological Affairs. Some members of the delegation were new to the Department and were interested to learn more about HKIS and the types of collaborations and exchanges undertaken by the Hong Kong surveying profession with their counterparts providing similar services in the mainland.

While Building Surveying, Quantity Surveying, and General Practice professionals in Hong Kong have mainland counterparts providing similar services, those engaged in Land Surveying, Property & Facility Management, and Planning & Development may not.

As a consequence, the latter three HKIS divisions indicated that their surveyors still found it hard to register and practise in the mainland, despite the introduction of the "Interim Guidelines for the Management of Hong Kong Engineering Construction Consultant Enterprises and Professionals Starting Business and Practising in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Cities", brought into effect on 1 January 2021.

Registration procedures in the three pilot free trade zones in Guangdong, namely Qianhai in Shenzhen, Hengqin in Zhuhai, and Nansha in Guangzhou, and the nine mainland municipalities in the Greater Bay Area were another focus of discussion. Currently these registration requirements and procedures differ, and those for Nansha have not yet been announced. Given that some professional members have already registered in the free trade zones, the HKIS asked

whether top-up procedures could be introduced to facilitate registration in other Greater Bay municipalities – and vice versa with regard to the free trade zones if members are already registered in Greater Bay Area municipalities.

The issue of authentication for Hong Kong surveying firms' job references was also raised, with reflections on whether the current authentication needed from a notary public in Mainland China could be replaced by verification by the Hong Kong government and/or the Surveyors Registration Board as appropriate, given that surveying firms on the government's company lists, i.e. the Architectural and Associated Consultants Selection Board (AACSB) and Engineering and Associated Consultants Selection Board (EACSB), have already been screened.

In mid-March, the Department of Educational, Scientific and Technological Affairs also invited some building-related professional institutes and organisations to a meeting on recent changes to the HKSAR's electoral system, which I attended on behalf of the HKIS.

Looking Ahead

April now promises to be an equally busy month as we aim to come to a decision on HKIS's accommodation and explore arrangements for a discussion forum between HKIS members and the Development Bureau to communicate views and further issues related to the facilitation of professional registration processes in the Greater Bay Area.

A healthy and happy Easter to all our members!

Sr Edwin Tang
President

時 光飛逝，今年一轉眼間春分已過，復活節又快將到來。

學會位於永安中心現址的租約將於 2021 年 12 月屆滿，新會址何去何從已成為當務之急。

學會辦公室選址進展

香港測量師學會辦公室地點工作小組一直致力處理此事，為更詳盡了解辦公室租賃市場現況及作出比較，小組成員花了相當多時日，在一至三月期間視察九龍和港島 11 個不同地點。

我參與差不多全部視察，而大家對後續的討論都極感興趣。評審的標準包括租金以外的成本、與港鐵站的距離、有否較高的淨樓面高度和足以收藏電線電纜的高架地板以帶來營運效益，以及一個租金相宜而又切合本會形象的地點。

與此同時，小組成員繼續與現址業主接觸，了解業主對續租的看法。

年費與捐款事宜

在其他會員事務上，我們正致力提高內部資訊科技系統的技術，以推出網上支付年費和申請費的服務，可惜該系統未能趕及「上線」為本年年費提供網上付款，會員仍需將支票郵寄至本會、或透過會員的學會聯營信用卡支付。

我們預計從 2022 年起，會員將可選用更便捷的網上付費方式繳付年費。我們並希望稍後能擴大系統，將所有費用納入同一網上支付平台。

除了支付年費外，我們亦鼓勵會員捐款予香港測量師學會慈善基金。這是認可的慈善機構，根據《稅務條例》第 88 條，捐款可獲免稅。基金於 2014 年 4 月成立，致力為有需要或面對困難的人士提供援助和財政支援，組織、支持、促進和參與非牟利工作和活動，協助貧困人士、長者、弱勢群體等有需要人士，並促進教育、扶貧、和緊急救助項目等。

中聯辦到訪

中聯辦教育部代表三月親臨香港測量師學會辦公室，該部部分新上任的成員藉此了解學會、

以及香港測量師與內地同業的合作與交流情況。

雖然香港的建築測量師、工料測量師和產業測量師在內地有對應的相應資格，但從事土地測量、物業設施管理、規劃及發展的測量師則未必有對口單位。

因此，儘管《香港工程建設諮詢企業和專業人士在粵港澳大灣區內地城市開業執業試點管理暫行辦法》已於 2021 年 1 月 1 日生效，本會這三個組別都指出，他們的測量師仍然感到較難透過備案方式在內地執業。

討論的另一個焦點，是廣東三個自由貿易試驗區（包括深圳前海、珠海橫琴和廣州南沙）以及大灣區九個城市的備案程序問題。目前各地的備案要求和程序不一，南沙自貿區的備案程序仍未公佈，而由於本會部分會員已經在自貿區備案，因此我們在會面中特別查詢引入銜接程序的可能性，希望會員可以更簡便地在大灣區其他城市備案；反之，若然會員已在大灣區城市備案，其備案地位能否引伸到自貿區，亦在我們垂詢之列。

另一談及的事項，是關於香港測量公司參與項目的認證情況。由於在特區政府建築及有關顧問公司遴選委員會 (AACSB) 以及工程及有關顧問公司遴選委員會 (EACSB) 顧問公司名冊上列出的測量公司，已全部經由政府核實，因此我們在會面中探討是否可以改由特區政府和 / 或測量師註冊管理局作出相關認證，以取代目前必須由中國內地公證人作出認證的做法。

三月中，教育部亦邀請與建築有關的專業學會及機構就香港新選舉制度會面，我代表學會參加會議。

未來計劃

四月將會繁忙而充實，我們希望就學會辦公室選址作出決定，亦會致力探討安排本會會員與發展局透過論壇討論，就促進大灣區專業註冊流程的觀點和其相關議題進行交流。

謹祝各位會員身體健康，復活節快樂！

會長
鄧海坤測量師