DIVISIONAL NEWS & ACTIVITIES

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General Practice Division
Sr Andrew Chan GPD Council Chairman

Embracing the 2024-2025 Budget: Opportunities for Growth and Development

The Government's recent release of its highly-anticipated 2024-2025 Budget has sparked significant interest and attention across Hong Kong. The GPD is pleased to witness the Government's unwavering commitment to promoting high-quality development, while diligently addressing the pressing needs of society. Notably, the policies outlined in the Budget regarding housing, land, and green development have received positive market feedback, thereby signalling their potential to make a positive impact on the city. This recognition of the HKIS's efforts underscores the importance of engaging in constructive dialogue and collaboration.

In line with the HKIS's commitment to staying informed of and connected to the latest developments concerning the surveying profession, it had the privilege of attending a luncheon organised by the Hong Kong Coalition of Professional Services on 13 March. This esteemed gathering brought together professionals from diverse sectors, including representatives from other divisions, and provided an invaluable platform for exchanging ideas.

During the luncheon, the Financial Secretary shared his underlying rationale behind the Budget. HKIS members' insights were well-received and the discussions that followed were engaging and fruitful. The Financial Secretary, in response to the Institute's feedback, emphasised the importance of balanced development in the property market, as well as the need to continuously monitor the market and promptly respond to any emerging opportunity and challenge.

As the HKIS moves forward, it is imperative that its members continue to engage with fellow professionals and industry leaders. By actively participating in events and forums, members can contribute their expertise, share their best practices, collectively shape Hong Kong's future landscape, and refine their respective fields.

Marking Milestones: The 40th Anniversary Cocktail Reception and Exciting Journey Ahead

This year, the Institute proudly celebrates its 40th anniversary, signifying four decades of excellence, growth, and significant contributions to the built environment and surveying profession. Kickstarting its commemorative events was the highly-anticipated 40th anniversary cocktail reception on 22 March.

The Institute was honoured to have the esteemed Financial Secretary as its guest of honour, as his presence added tremendous significance and prestige to the evening. It also underscored the Government's recognition of the HKIS's invaluable role in Hong Kong's construction industry.

The cocktail reception was characterised by warmth, camaraderie, and reflection on the Institute's achievements over the past 40 years. As the celebration continues, the HKIS encourages members to stay tuned for more exciting events and initiatives in the future.



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2024 Mainland and Hong Kong Construction Industry Forum

The 2024 Mainland and Hong Kong Construction Industry Forum took place in Guangzhou from 26-27 March. It was truly encouraging to witness the gathering of professionals from both the Mainland and Hong Kong in the wake of the pandemic.

Representing the HKIS, the GPD and QSD collaborated with their Mainland counterparts. the China Institute of Real Estate Appraisers and Agents (CIREA) and Guangdong Engineering Cost Association (GDECA), to host a subforum. Everyone was delighted to see active participation from over 30 HKIS members, which further reinforced the cooperation and collaboration between Hong Kong and Mainland construction professionals.

The forum's primary focus was to share market practices and innovative measures to inspire professionals to adapt to the changing market landscape. It proved to be a fruitful and enlightening two-day event featuring engaging discussions, presentations, and insightful site visits.



Nurturing the Future: Empowering Young Talents in the Field

The importance of young talents in the industry cannot be overstated. They bring a fresh perspective, boundless energy, and a hunger for innovation that is essential for driving progress and shaping the future.

I had the pleasure of joining Sr Alvin Leung in a career talk organised by the University College of Estate Management, where we shared our insights and experiences to promote the GP surveying profession. It provided a valuable platform to engage with aspiring professionals and highlight the diverse opportunities in this field. By shedding light on the challenges and

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rewards of being a GP surveyor, we aimed to inspire and motivate the next generation of professionals to pursue this fulfilling career.

To continue the GPD's efforts to promote the profession, I gladly announce that I will attend a career talk at HKU on 5 April 2024 with Education Committee co-conveners Sr Cyrus Fong and Sr Alex Fong. This event will provide another excellent opportunity to engage with students and showcase the exciting prospects for GP surveyors.

By actively promoting and supporting the profession, the GPD will continue to cultivate a robust pipeline of young and talented surveyors who will significantly contribute to the growth and development of the built environment sector.



CPD Highlights

A CPD titled, "Kowloon Tong Garden City – The History and The Latest Court Judgement," was held in February and proved to be an enormous success. The session featured esteemed speakers Sr Dr Jason Kwong and Sr Carmen Cheng, who provided attendees with an immersive exploration of the historical background of the renowned Kowloon Tong Garden Estate. A particular highlight of the

session was the focused examination of the recent court judgement, Eastrade Holdings, Ltd v Secretary for Justice for and on behalf of the Director of Lands.

The session was marked by engaging discussions and interactive exchanges, which allowed participants to actively share their thoughts and queries. The knowledge-sharing atmosphere fostered a dynamic learning experience that enabled professionals from diverse backgrounds to gain valuable insights into and broaden their understanding of the subject matter.

The overwhelmingly positive feedback to this CPD reaffirmed the importance of organising such educational events to facilitate surveyors' continuous learning and professional development. The GPD remains deeply committed to delivering future sessions that delve into critical industry topics and provide practical ways to enhance the professional growth of its members.

ANNOUNCEMENT

GPD APC Part II Assessment & Professional Task in early May and June 2024

The GPD APC Part II Assessment & Professional Task will take place in early May and June 2024. Application form can be downloaded from our website (HKIS main page ⇒ Professional Development ⇒ APC ⇒ GPD). Completed form must be returned to HKIS Secretariat by **no later than 6:00 pm, Friday, 19 April 2024**. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Please call HKIS Education Department on 2526 3679 for more details.