

Newsletter

Feb 2024



The Association of Consulting Engineers of Hong Kong

香港顧問工程師協會

Message from the Chairman



It is my great honour and pleasure to be elected as the Chairman of the Association of Consulting Engineers of Hong Kong (ACEHK) for the 2023/2024 Session.

As our society progressively returned to normal in 2023, Hong Kong's construction industry has entered a golden era, leveraging key government initiatives such as Northern Metropolis, Kau Yi Chau Artificial Island, and projects like "Three Major Railways and Three Major Roads" as well as "Two Railways and One Major Road" in the Northern Metropolis proposed under the Hong Kong Major Transport Infrastructure Development Blueprint. Nearly HK\$100 billion will be spent per year on infrastructure projects, which equates to HK\$1,000 billion over the coming 10 years. Although the forecasted yearly capital works expenditure is at an all-time high, our industry is also facing unprecedented challenges, particularly in human resource shortages. According to the Construction Industry Council's Manpower Forecast for Hong Kong Construction Industry towards 2027, we are expecting to face a considerable shortage of professionals in a range of 5,000 to 6,000 in 2024 and 6,000 to 6,500 in 2027. Leveraging technological advancements from the past few years of the COVID-19 pandemic to drive evolution in our industry—through digital adoption, automation, and innovation—is essential. This approach will reduce manpower demands while simultaneously enhancing delivery efficiency and quality, which is a 'must' to make our industry more sustainable and resilient.

On the other hand, talent retention and acquisition from Mainland China and other countries will be another focus in the upcoming years to support the growth and development of the consulting industry. ACEHK is committed to attracting new talents by telling good stories of Hong Kong. Following our participation in a career fair in Mainland China in 2023 with some positive feedback from our member firms, ACEHK will continue to support the Development Bureau and collaborate with other professional institutions and industry stakeholders to conduct career fairs in other countries and cities in 2024.

ACEHK will continue to take centre stage and play key roles as a bridge between the Government and the consulting industry, particularly in collaborating and working hand-in-hand with all stakeholders to implement large-scale infrastructure projects and to build a better Hong Kong. We are also committed to nurturing young talents to ensure the healthy and sustainable development of the industry in the long run. To engage and support our members, ACEHK will arrange an array of events and activities for the 2023/2024 session, such as site visits, technical forums/seminars, government liaison meetings, mentorship programs, etc. We look forward to your continued support and participation.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a joyful and healthy Year of the Dragon.

Briefing by DEVB for new Consultancy Agreements

On 15 December 2023, DEVB has organised another briefing session of this year to our ACEHK Council Members about the upcoming new consultancy agreements in 2024. We are thrilled to learn that there are many mega to medium consultancy projects coming up in 2024 and collaboration amongst consultants of different groups categories is becoming the key to success on those projects.



Meet the ACEHK Council Members Team 2023/2024

We are pleased to announce our new ACEHK Council Members team following our successful completion of AGM on 20 December 2023. Collaboration and effective communication are at the heart of our team's approach. They thrive on fostering a supportive and inclusive environment where ideas are freely shared, and everyone's contributions are valued. This collaborative spirit amongst our members firm enables us to leverage our collective strengths and work together seamlessly towards our shared goals.



Left to Right (upper row) : Claudine Lee, Dickson Law, Jason Wong, Eric Lau, David Chang, Victor Cheung, Simon Ng, Ivy Kong, Derek Yu

Left to Right (bottom row): Simon Lau, Ole Wong, Andy Kwok, Stephen Lai, Francis Yau, Chris Lee

ACEHK Annual Seminar 2023

ACEHK has successfully completed Annual Seminar 2023 on 5 October 2023 with the presence of Ir Ricky Lau Chun-kit, JP, Permanent Secretary for Development (Works) Development Bureau, The Government of the HKSAR as our honourable keynote speakers. The seminar has delved into three key pillars: carbon neutrality, ESG considerations, and safety solutions. Our speakers have examined how engineering can lead the way in reducing carbon emissions, developing sustainable technologies, and transitioning to renewable energy sources. We have also explored the importance of considering environmental, social, and governance factors in engineering projects to ensure sustainability, ethical practices, and positive social impact. We have received tremendous positive feedback of this seminar and we wish to extend our appreciation to our great OC team to ensure success of this meaningful annual event !



2nd Round of Recruitment from the Mainland China

DEVB has arranged the 2nd round of recruitment with Mainland Universities graduates including 北京, 上海, 广州 和 深圳 between October and November 2023. The feedback from Mainland graduates were overwhelming and most of our Members Firm have actively participated the career roadshows with exhibitions. Our Council Members were presenting ACEHK organisation and functions to the Mainland parties with very well appreciation.



Collaboration with Various Parties

Throughout the year 2023, ACEHK has maintained series of collaboration with various Government departments, other professional institutions and young engineers to exchange our views. ACEHK will continue to bring professionals from different disciplines and sectors to share insights, experiences, and best practices to the growth and development of the construction industry.



ACEHK Actively Support CIC Activities

ACEHK has maintained our spirit to continuously support activities from CIC (Construction Industry Council) to promote the construction industry through various activities and initiatives. ACEHK fully appreciate and value CIC networking and collaboration opportunities for industry professionals that fostering a sense of community and knowledge exchange through conferences, seminars, industry exhibitions, and networking events, particularly safety as our prime concern for the industry.



ACEHK Council Members for 2023/2024 Session

Position	Name	Company
Chairman	Ir Stephen LAI	AECOM
Past Chairman	Ir Andy KWOK	Binnies
Vice Chairman	Ir Francis YAU	Aurecon
Hon Treasurer	Ir Ole WONG	Mott MacDonald
Hon Secretary	Ir Chris LEE	CM Wong
Council Member	Ir Ivy KONG	WSP
Council Member	Ir Simon NG	Mannings
Council Member	Ir Jason WONG	Arup
Council Member	Ir Simon LAU	Au Posford
Council Member	Ir Eric LAU	Buro Happold
Council Member	Ir David CHANG	SMEC
Council Member	Ir Dickson LAW	AIS
Council Member	Ir Claudine LEE	Meinhardt
Secretariat	Bernice CHENG	OM Link

Young Members Committee

Position	Name	Company
Chairman	Derek YU	AECOM
Past Chairlady and Treasurer	Angela CHAO	CM Wong
Vice Chairman	Andrew LEE	AECOM
Secretary, Social Media and Souvenirs		
Kathy LAI (Mott MacDonald)		
Social Events Team		
Derek YU (AECOM), Louis AU (AECOM), Jimmy FUNG (Arup), Saad FAIZI (Arup), Raymond HUI (Atkins)		
Bridge the gap Series Team		
Angela CHAO (CM Wong), Heather AU (Aurecon), Hinx POON (Buro Happold), Joshua TAM (Binnies)		
Delegation Team		
Saad FAIZI (Arup), Cyrus CHAN (Binnies), Keiko KAM (WSP), Anwar UL HAQ (AECOM), George WONG (Mott MacDonald)		
Initiatives/Projects Team		
Andrew LEE (AECOM), Saad FAIZI (Arup), Sharjeel LARIK (Mott MacDonald), Fauzy SIDDIQUI (Mott MacDonald), Wes SUN (Buro Happold)		

ACEHK YMC 2023-2024

Event Held:

- 18 Sept 2023 : Joint Society Mediation Workshop
- 28 Sept 2023 : Bridge the Gap series – Networking Evening
- 28 Oct 2023 : Joint Young Professional's Think Deep Workshop
- 7 Dec 2023 : ACEHK YMC Evening Cocktail 2023

Upcoming Events:

- Mar 2024 : Bridge the Gap Series – Networking Evening
- April 2024 : ACEHK YMC Breakfast Meeting
- June 2024 : Bridge the Gap Series – Networking Evening
- August 2024 : ACEHK YMC Evening Cocktail

ACEHK Online and Feedback

- On the web <http://www.acehk.org.hk>
- On Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/TheACEHK/>
- On LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/in/the-association-of-consulting-engineers-of-hong-kong-139646235/>