

Newsletter

February 2023

Message from the Chair



It's a great honour for me to be elected as the Chairman of the Association of Consulting Engineers Hong Kong (ACEHK) for Session 2022/2023.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic has changed our ways of living over the past three years, I am grateful and take great pride in witnessing how the engineering sector has coped with challenges through transforming our way of work execution and project delivery with the adoption of new technologies as well as the implementation of various anti-epidemic measures.

Looking forward, while our society is progressively returning to normal, the Government has pledged various key initiatives, such as Lantau Tomorrow, Northern Metropolis, three major roads and three strategic railways, etc., and committed resources into major infrastructure developments. Many say that the Hong Kong construction industry has entered a golden era, as nearly HK\$100 billion per year will be spent on infrastructure projects, which is equivalent to 1,000 billion HKD for the coming 10 years. With the yearly capital works expenditure at its all-time high, our industry is also facing unprecedented challenges and shortages in human resources. Inevitably, there needs to be an evolution in the industry to develop a new way of working by integrating technologies, automations, as well as innovations to reduce manpower demands and enhance quantity, efficiency, and quality in relation to project implementation and delivery.

ACEHK will keep abreast of the latest Government initiatives and visions, such as the Hong Kong Climate Action Plan 2050 on zero carbon emission and sustainable development. We will continue to be at centre stage and play key roles as a bridge between the Government and the consulting industry, particularly on ways to collaborate and work hand-in-hand with all the stakeholders on implementing the large-scale infrastructure projects, as well as nurturing young talents to ensure a healthy and sustainable development of the industry in the long run. By promoting good image and prospects of our industry, ACEHK is missioned to attract new talents by telling the good stories of Hong Kong.

Last but not least, ACEHK has formulated a number of events and activities for the session of 2022/2023, including workshops, webinars, Government Liaison meetings, and mentorship program, etc. We hope to have your continued support and participation.

I look forward to meeting all of you in our upcoming ACEHK events and ventures.

Kung Hei Fat Choi 恭喜發財

Best wishes for the Year of the Rabbit to all our Member Firms and Registered Principals from all of us on the ACEHK Council



The Association of Consulting Engineers of Hong Kong

香港顧問工程師協會

ACEHK 2022 Annual General Meeting

The 2022 AGM was held on 12 December 2022 at the Hong Kong Club and also online. After the AGM, in the first Council Meeting of the 2022/2023 session, Ir Andy KWOK was elected as Chairman – see next page for details of the ACEHK Council for the 2022/2023 session:



Top Row (left to right): Victor CHEUNG, Simon NG, Simon LAU, Ole WONG, Eric LAU and Francis SOOTOO
Bottom Row (left to right): Francis LAU, Stephen LAI, Andy KWOK, Stephen LAI and Dickson LAW
Not Present: Ivy KONG, Jason WONG, Chris LEE and James SZE

ACEHK Participation in Selected External Committees and Events

- BD – Authorized Persons, Registered Structural Engineers and Registered Geotechnical Engineers Committee (APSEC).** Meeting was held on 12 August 2022.
- CIC – BIM Committee.** Meeting held in November. The *CIC Beginner's Guide on Construction Digitalisation – Digital Platform for Construction Work Management* is being finalised with publication expected shortly; the *CIC Beginner's Guide to Adoption of BIM in Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)* is under preparation with target publication date in Q1 2023; and the *CIC Beginner's Guide on Construction Digitalisation – Cybersecurity Awareness* is under preparation with target publication date also in Q1 2023. The Teaching and Learning Kit for BIM Viewer Training was launched on 20 October 2021, and to-date over 9,400 individuals have obtained the BIM Viewer Certificate. Discussions were held in October regarding the terms, requirements, restrictions and new policy on current ARE post set up and E&M issues: Companies would employ ARE rather than RE due to the budget allocated and the low availability of REs. As some AREs are already chartered, DevB suggested hiring them as REs but working as AREs, with the working period of ARE post increased from 3 years to 5 years.
- CIC – Task Group Meeting on Publicity and Promotion of the Image of Construction Industry.** The launch ceremony was held in mid-November and attended by ACHK Council Members and YMC.
- CIC – Task Force for Strategic Review for Uplifting Construction Capacity.** The second task force meeting was held on 30 August 2022.
- DevB – Consulting Engineering Committee.** Several meetings were held towards the end of last year with DevB and the Secretary for Development to discuss key concerns of Member Firms, including minimum RSS on-cost rate; reference staff rates for additional services; adoption of non-engineering staff as Professional (P) staff for project co-ordination or executive support; review of RSS Establishment; score in marking scheme for adoption of JV or sub-consultants in Consultancies; promotion of job opportunities in Hong Kong; and limit of liability. ACEHK also expressed concern on the current resource challenges. The next meeting will be held on 3 February.
- DevB – Steering Committee on Construction Innovation and Technology Fund.** Meeting held on 6 September and a paper was circulated on early fund disbursement to provide cash relief for applicants.
- EMSD – Working Group on Development of Best Practices for Operation and Maintenance of E&M Assets.** ACEHK representative joined the 2nd Best Practice Advisory Panel Meeting on 24 August 2022. The first batch of Best Practices Case Sharing Videos were endorsed.

New Registered Principals

ACEHK congratulates the following new RPs from current Member Firms:

- Ir Gerald LEE Ting Keung and Ir Sandy POON Hiu Shan from Motts

ACEHK Annual Dinner and Annual Awards 2022

The Annual Dinner was held on **8 November 2022** at the JW Marriott Ballroom, with our Guest of Honour Mr Ricky LAU Chin Kit, Permanent Secretary for Development (Works), DevB. The event was well attended by Member Firms and their guests, with 240 present. At the Dinner, the Annual Awards were presented.



Overall Best Award



Cross Bay Link, Tseung Kwan O

- Civil Engineering and Development Department
- AECOM Asia Company Limited
- China Road and Bridge Corporation
- Meinhardt Infrastructure and Environment Limited
- Hewson Consulting Limited

Annual Award Recipients



LOHAS Park Phase VI (LP6)

- C M Wong & Associates Ltd



Kai Tak Sky Garden – A New Cityscape in Kai Tak Development

- Civil Engineering and Development Department
- AECOM Asia Company Limited
- Continental Engineering Corporation
- Chit Cheung Construction Company Limited



Lift and Pedestrian Walkway System between Tai Wo Hau Road and Wo Tong Tsui Street, Kwai Chung

- Works Division of Highways Department
- Mannings (Asia) Consultants Limited

ACEHK Events Planned in 2023

The following events are currently planned for 2023. Further events will be added during the year. Please check the website for updates, which will also be included in the next Newsletter.

- **March** – Follow up on the Webinar “Market Research for Retaining Consulting Engineers in the Consulting Industry”; Workshop with all Member Firms at ZCB; Roadshow of Hong Kong Projects at Grade A universities in Beijing or Shanghai
- **April** – Breakfast Talk on “Talent Retention”; ACEHK Annual Awards
- **May** – YMC Event (TBC)
- **June** – Breakfast Talk -Digitalization and Innovation in Construction Works
- **September** – Belt and Road Week at HKTDC; ACEHK Annual Seminar
- **December** – ACEHK Annual Dinner; ACEHK AGM

ACEHK Council Members for 2022/2023 Session

Position	Name	Company
Chairman	Ir Andy KWOK	Binnies
Past Chairman	Ir Stephen MAK	Meinhardt
Vice Chairman	Ir Stephen LAI	AECOM
Hon Secretary	Ir Dickson LAW	Atkins
Hon Treasurer	Ir Francis YAU	Aurecon
Council Member	Ir Francis SOOTOO	MVA
Council Member	Ir Ole WONG	Mott MacDonald
Council Member	Ir Ivy KONG	WSP
Council Member	Ir Simon LAU	Au Posford
Council Member	Ir Jason WONG	Arup
Council Member	Ir Eric LAU	Buro Happold
Council Member	Ir Simon NG	Mannings
Co-Opted	Ir Chris LEE	CM Wong
Co-Opted	Ir Victor CHEUNG	J Roger Preston
Observer	Ir James SZE	Arup
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	Mott MacDonald
Secretary, Social Media and Souvenirs Kathy LAI (Mott MacDonald)		
Social Events Team Saad FAIZI (Arup), Jimmy FUNG (Arup), Louis AU (AECOM), Raymond HUI (Atkins)		
Mentorship Team Angela CHAO (CM Wong), Joshua TAM (Binnies), Derek YU (AECOM)		
Delegation Team Saad FAIZI (Arup), Keiko KAM (WSP), Anwar UL HAQ (AECOM), Cyrus CHAN (Binnies)		
Initiatives/Projects Team Saad FAIZI (Arup), Andrew LEE (Mott MacDonald), Fauzy SIDDIQUI (Mott MacDonald)		

Donation to Families of Victims of the Tower Crane Collapse

On the morning of Wednesday 7 September 2022, an unloaded 65-tonne tower crane collapsed onto containers at a construction site on Anderson Road. Three workers were killed and six others were injured.

During the Council Meeting on 20 October 2022, Council Members approved a donation from ACEHK of \$30,000 to each of the families of two of the victims of the tower crane collapse. The family of the third victim declined to receive a donation.

Subsequently, the donation was made in November 2022 through the Association for the Rights of Industrial Accident Victims (工業傷亡權益會) and was gratefully received by the families of the victims.

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/>

Members are welcome to provide feedback on any issue to the ACEHK Chairman at: chairman@acehk.org.hk