

恭喜發財 Happy New Year of the Dog



Message from the Chair

Gong Xi Fa Cai! I wish you all a happy and successful Year of the Dog!

2018 sees the gradual completion of various large-scale infrastructure development projects including the Hong Kong - Zhuhai - Macau Bridge and the Guangzhou - Shenzhen - Hong Kong Express Rail Link. We take pride in our members' contributions on these iconic projects and the ongoing economic development of Hong Kong.

We need a stable supply of new public works projects to sustain a healthy development of our profession. During this session, we shall continue to strengthen our partnering relationships with the relevant government bureaux and works departments as well as other stakeholders of the construction industry, and to facilitate our members to grasp the enormous opportunities brought about by the Belt and Road Initiative and the Guangdong - Hong Kong - Macau Bay Area development.

To ensure the consultancy engineering profession will continue to prosper, we will strengthen the support for our Young Members Group that was established last year to foster the professional development of our young engineers. They are our future leaders!

As consulting engineers, we have a crucial role to play in driving innovation and creativity for the enhancement of efficiency, quality and safety in advancing the standard of the professional services. I look forward to receiving your support in our endeavours.

Victor Cheung  
Chairman

The AGM and your Council



At the AGM held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at the Hong Kong Club, a new Council for 2017-18 was elected. The Officers for the coming session were then appointed at the 1<sup>st</sup> Council meeting held immediately after the AGM.

Your Council is:

Ir Victor CHEUNG	Chairman
Ir Barry SUM	Vice Chairman
Ir Francis SOOTOO	Honorary Treasurer
Ir David C H CHANG	Honorary Secretary
Ir James SZE	Deputy Honorary Treasurer
Ir Eric LAU	Deputy Honorary Secretary
Ir MAK Tak Ming, Stephen	Ir Rupert LEUNG
Ir TONG Wai Lok	Ir Stephanus SHOU
Jon PAVEY	Ir Kenneth S K LI
Ir William NG (co-opted)	Julian TYSON (co-opted)

The Chairman and Council wish to express their appreciation of the contribution made by the members retiring from last years' Council, with especial thanks to last years' Chairman, Ir Francis Kung, for his leadership and dedication.

Programme for 2017/18

The programme of events for the coming year is being developed, with some events already fixed (see "Upcoming events overleaf).

Planned activities include:

- Continuing with regular dialogue with government, particularly through the various working groups and stakeholder committees.
- Proactively supporting information gathering and dissemination to members on Belt and Road initiatives.
- The Annual Seminar. James Sze is heading the organising committee.
- Continuing with the Annual Awards. Details will be announced in late spring with a view to the awards being presented at the Annual Dinner.
- Four breakfast briefings and networking events, spread through the year.
- Strengthening the Young Members' Committee and their programme of out-reach to students and others who may be interested in a career in engineering.

Young Members' Committee

The Council intends to build on the very successful initiative of the 2016/17 session to strengthen engagement with our young members.

Last year the Committee was initially 12 strong, drawn from seven consultants. It split its work into five areas:

- Proposals – managing the overall budget, liaison and coordination with the ACEHK Council and facilitating internal YMC meetings
- Liaison – coordinating both the reach out to universities and secondary schools and connecting with professional groups and individuals to collaborate with the YMC in their work
- Presentations – developing event programmes, content and resourcing
- Game – the development of an interactive game used to illustrate the role of engineers in our society
- Souvenirs – identifying suitable products, purchasing and storage

In the coming year it is intended to refresh and expand the YMC. Details of proposed activities are being formulated and will be announced in the next few weeks.

## Construction industry activities: overview

### EACSB

On 23<sup>rd</sup> January, DEVB took a further step towards introduction of new arrangements governing the procurement and management of EACSB consultants. They issued documents inviting consultants to participation in their pre-registration exercise for the proposed new arrangements.

This is a non-binding exercise. Apparently DEVB are seeking to understand the likely number of consultants in each group, for each of the proposed service categories. Depending on the response, DEVB may make changes to the qualification criteria proposed.

Having received feedback from the membership, the Council sought further clarification on the proposals from DEVB. Accordingly, a meeting was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

DEVB is clearly convinced there is a need for changes to current procurement arrangements, in the belief that there is currently a failure in the market with a disproportionate volume of work going to a few of the 130 registered EACSB consultants.

It is also evident that the full range of implementation arrangements have yet to be firmed up. Whilst DEVB challenged ACEHK members to embrace change, they also recognised that there are some widely-held concerns among ACEHK members.

DEVB is planning to set up a stakeholder Working Group in autumn 2018 aimed at addressing issues, not least those where there could be unintended consequences through constructive dialogue. ACEHK's Council believes that it will be important for ACEHK to have strong voice on this Working Group.

### Construction Industry Alliance (CIA)

The CIA continues to be concerned about the delays in funds being allocated for capital works projects with the consequent impact on jobs and the commercial viability of companies working in the construction sector.

A further demonstration is planned for 4<sup>th</sup> March 2018. ACEHK will support this, as it has done in the past.

ACEHK encourages members to attend on a voluntary basis to show support.

## New public works projects

The list of new public works projects for 2018 presented to the Public Works Sub-Committee of Finance Committee in January is available [here](#) (or see <http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr17-18/english/fc/pwsc/papers/pi17-05e.pdf>)

### Asia Pacific Rail 2018

ACEHK is supporting the Asia Pacific Rail 2018 conference taking place from 20-21 March 2018 at Hong Kong's Convention and Exhibition Centre.

FREE Expo Passes are available, see [here](#) (or see <http://www.terrapinn.com/exhibition/asia-pacific-rail/index.stm>)

In addition, ACEHK Members may enjoy 15% off Conference Passes with promo code: PCDA

### CITAC

DEVB assisted arrange a visit by ACEHK members to the Construction Innovation and Technology Application Centre.

The aim was to showcase current innovations affecting our industry and to promote ideas for introducing further advances in how we deliver buildings and infrastructure. This would be both home-grown ideas and through introducing overseas technologies or innovations.

### Security of Payment Legislation (SOPL)

Having elected to adopt the "claimant propose-respondent select" procedure, DEVB have recently consulted on their draft proposals for a register of adjudicator nominating bodies. This covers the admission requirements and application procedures for the register of adjudicator nominating bodies held by DEVB.

## Upcoming events

A	Breakfast briefing	Arrangements are currently being made for the first briefing to be held in early April.
B	Visit to CHINCA	This was originally planned for the 2016/17 session. A date has still to be fixed; the intention is to combine this with visiting the AIIB offices in Beijing.
C	Annual Seminar	This is provisionally arranged for 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2018. The topic for this whole day event will be related to smart cities and digital engineering. More details to follow!
D	Annual Dinner	This will be held on 12 November 2018.
E	2018 AGM	This is being planned for 10 December 2018.

## Feedback

Event updates are also posted at: <http://www.acehk.org.hk>

Members can provide feedback on any issue to the Chairman at: [chairman@acehk.org.hk](mailto:chairman@acehk.org.hk)