

## President's Message



Dear fellow members,

Even though the COVID-19 pandemic which has given rise to severe economic repercussions globally and locally is still affecting us, the situation is improving and under control in Hong Kong. However, it is believed that the disruption will continue globally over the next few months. For the Institute, although we have resumed normal working arrangements in mid-March, this continued disruption includes cancelling or deferring some of scheduled events and activities while the mode of conducting Continuing Professional Development (CPD) events have been changed instead to live via online media platforms, such as Zoom and Cisco Webex Meetings.

Despite the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are striving to ensure minimal disruption to the normal daily operation of the Institute and keep members abreast of the latest developments. Our General Council had been continuously hard at work on events and activities during the past 3 months which I would like to report those major ones as follow:

### **(1) Membership**

As at 31 March 2020, the total membership reduced to 3,048 (of which 1,149 are Corporate Members), but still representing a growth of 6.1% over the same period last year (2,872 as at 31 March 2019). The reduction in membership was mainly the result of expungement of a total of 44 members from the Register of Membership due to non-payment of annual subscription.

### **(2) Education and Academic/Professional Accreditation**

For the Re-accreditation Programme 2020 launched last February, the Board of Examination upon thorough assessment of the course information submitted by the education institutions has approved in May 2020 to re-accredit a total of 22 courses, including 1 BEng

degree course of HKU, 4 BSc degree courses of PolyU SPEED, 1 ASc & 1 Higher Diploma courses of PolyU HKCC, 1 ASc degree course of CityU, 2 BSc degree courses of CityU SCOPE, 2 MSc & 2 BEng degree courses of HKUST and 4 Higher Diploma & 4 Diploma courses of IVE of VTC.

A Memorandum of Understanding on collaboration between Hong Kong Institute of Construction Managers and Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors was signed on 17 March 2020 to build a closer cooperation between the two institutes in enhancing the professionalism of Construction Managers and Civil Engineering Surveyors as well as their memberships in Hong Kong and United Kingdom respectively.

### **(3) CPD and Training**

In order to reduce the risk of spread of novel coronavirus, CPD seminars were conducted instead via online media platforms, such as Zoom and Cisco Webex Meetings during the past three months to ensure the health safety of speakers and participants. Based on functionality and various other aspects of the online platform, it will continue to be our preferred choice until the COVID-19 pandemic is over.

During the period, a total of 5 CPD events were organized, including 3 CPD seminars conducted via online platform as well as a site visit for the Construction of a 3-storey height Temporary Quarantine Facilities by Modular Integrated Construction at Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre with walkthrough challenges. Upcoming events scheduled during June and July 2020 will include 6 CPD online seminars.

### **(4) Public & Social Affairs**

In May 2020, I am honored to represent the Institute, as one of the professional bodies in construction sector, to participate in the recording of Construction Industry Anti-epidemic Song - *Sail through the Pandemic*, jointly produced by the Development Bureau, Civil Engineering and Development Department, Construction Industry Council and other professional bodies to send messages of care and encouragement to Hong Kong.

During the past few months, some recent issues on which I have expressed our views as follows:

- 於 2020 年 5 月 27 日刊登之香港經濟日報投稿發表文章，題目為：「沙中綫事故 宜提升工程管理水平」，提及沙中綫紅磡站事故調查報告中反映地盤存在「造工差劣，監管不力」等問題，並希望香港政府能推行註冊營造師和註冊監工制度，將承建

商的項目經理(營造師)和各級監工進行註冊，規範行業水平，從而改善工程質量核心問題。

- 於 2020 年 4 月 19 日回應政府提供之第二輪防疫抗疫基金撥款時，表示歡迎撥款獲得通過，相信有助解決建造業界燃眉之急。他亦指出業界面臨工程量大減，不少公司會減少甚至停止聘請畢業生，故促請政府能夠提供定額津貼，鼓勵建造業界聘請全職應屆畢業的大專生，建議補貼金額為每月 5,000 元至 8,000 元不等，為期半年。
- 於 2020 年 3 月 4 日接受有線財經資訊台節目訪問，內容主要探討新冠肺炎疫情對建造業施工的影響，因受制內地停工建材如碎石等未能如期付運，令地盤項目不得不暫緩施工，預料今年落成量少一成。
- 於 2020 年 3 月 1 日接受文匯報訪問，標題為“疫情重挫建造業 數以萬計工人恐無飯開，逾萬項目停工 中小建築商臨倒閉”，內容主要講述新冠肺炎疫情對建造業界的影響，逾萬項目因建材暫停供應而停工，令地盤工程處於停擺狀態，預料今年建造業的形勢不容樂觀。
- 於 2020 年 3 月 2 日之新城財經台專題節目《新城地產街》接受了訪問，訪問內容主要是探討“新型肺炎對建造業界的影響”及“香港政府因應新型肺炎疫情對建造業界的支援”

#### **(5) Social Events and Activities**

A social gathering cum photo-taking session of the new General Council 2019/20 was held on 23 May 2020 (Saturday) afternoon.

The event started with a lunch gathering at Lingnan Club on 12/F of On Lok Yuen Building in Central, during which a mask donation ceremony was held as The Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen has offered to donate 5,000 pieces of face masks to the Institute for the distribution to members in need as well as a certificate presentation ceremony to present the Certificate of Appointment to our Honorary Legal Adviser, Mr SO Yui-chit, Damon in appreciation of his support and contribution to the development of Institute.

Thereafter the lunch, a photo-taking session for both group and individual photos of the council and co-opted members of the new General Council 2019/20 were held at the HKICM Secretariat Office.

#### **(6) Adoption of New Articles of Association and Change of Name of the Institute**

The General Council is pleased to announce that subsequent to the passing of special resolutions in relation to the proposed (i) Adoption of the newly approved “Articles of

Association” by the Registrar of Companies and (ii) Change of Name of the Institute at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 1 April 2020 at HKICM Secretariat Office, the Registrar of Companies has granted a licence to dispense with the word “Limited” and the characters “有限公司” under section 103 of the Companies Ordinance, Cap 622 and issued the “Certificate of Incorporation on Change of Name” on 27 April 2020. Hence, the name of the Institute has been changed from “Hong Kong Institute of Construction Managers, Limited 香港營造師學會有限公司” to “Hong Kong Institute of Construction Managers 香港營造師學會” with effect from 27 April 2020.

Lastly, I sincerely hope we all shall continue to remain cautious on personal hygiene and pay attention to social distancing until COVID-19 pandemic is over. With an uncertain recovery process, the Institute remains committed to preparing for the future and ensuring our members’ professional development.

With Warmest Regards,



Cr SHUM Hau-tak, Daniel

President

31 May 2020